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Convention Begins 2nd 100 Years

The WMU Convention March 19-21 at First Church, Greenville, will mark the beginning of the second 100 years of Mississippi Woman's Missionary Union.

Mrs. A. Harrison Gregory of Danville, Va., president of Woman's Missionary Union, SBC, will speak at the BYW banquet Monday night, and on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings.

A Missions Extravaganza will be a prominent part of this convention which has as its theme, "To All the World." This extravaganza will take the place of a formal Tuesday night session, and will offer a time for men and women, Acteens, GAs, RAs, and older Mission Friends to be part of the WMU Convention. It will proffer a missionary puppet theatre, a Bold Mission film, a stewardship drama, and other features. Mrs. Gregory will sign autographs. The entire evening's activities will be presented in the Family Life Center and in some other areas of the church building.

The meditation speaker for four sessions will be Mrs. Ray Gilliland, of Rapid City, S. D., WMU executive director, Northern Plains Convention. Mrs. Gilliland will present a brief message at the beginning of the Monday night, Tuesday morning, Tuesday



Gregory

afternoon, and Wednesday morning sessions.

Foreign missionary speakers will include Dr. and Mrs. Charles Deever, Ivory Coast; Mr. and Mrs. Larry Cox, Ivory Coast; Miss Danny Stampely, Ghana; Miss Emogene Harris, Nigeria; and Mrs. Tom Thurman, Bangladesh.

Mrs. Louie Odom of Jackson will direct the congregational music and sing solos. In addition, music will be provided by the Sanctuary Choir and the Ladies' Handbell Choir of First Church, Greenville, and by soloists from the Greenville area.

Other missionary guests will be Miss Gaynor Yancey, home missionary, Philadelphia, Penn., and several short-term missionaries.

Mrs. Robert Smira will preside at the convention, in her last year as state president. A new president will be elected.

The Baptist Young Women Banquet will be held at 5:30 on Monday evening, and the meal will cost \$3. Requests for reservations should be sent to Marilyn Hopkins, WMU, Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205.

Ministry To Spanish Begins On Gulf Coast

An outreach ministry to Spanish speaking people on the Mississippi Gulf Coast began with the arrival of Eliu Camacho-Vasquez.

A native of Puerto Rico, Camacho is a graduate of William Carey College in Hattiesburg, earned a master of arts degree from Pepperdine College in Malibu, Calif., and is continuing studies in theology at New Orleans Seminary.

Camacho, just retired from the U. S. Army as chief of the Ethnic Studies Branch of the Defense Race Relations Institute, will be developing congregational ministries in the Gulf Coast area.

He has been pastor of Spanish language missions in Georgia and the Canal Zone while on active duty.

On January 21, 21 people attended the first meeting of Primera Iglesia Bautista de Biloxi. The Spanish mission is jointly sponsored by the First Baptist Church of Biloxi and the Gulf Coast Baptist Association. The mis-

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Camacho-Vasquez

Peacemaking Convocation Draws Criswell's Support

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (BP) — A convocation on Peacemaking and the Nuclear Arms Race has drawn the support of a leading conservative Southern Baptist spokesman.

"It is my earnest prayer that some solution can be found for the illimitable waste spent on armaments that could be so desperately useful for the poor and the lost of the world," W. A. Criswell says in a printed statement to be read at the convocation in February.

"Southern Baptists need to begin taking the biblical call to peacemaking more seriously," adds Criswell, pastor of the 20,000 member Dallas First Baptist Church.

The convocation, to be held Feb. 16-17 at Louisville's Deer Park Baptist Church and at The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, is a response to a resolution passed at the 1978 Southern Baptist Convention in Atlanta.

The resolution states in part that "we confess we have not pursued peace with full Christian commitment,

and we commit ourselves to pray for peace in our churches and to seek to become more committed to peacemaking." It urges national leaders "to seek mutual agreements with other nations to slow the nuclear arms race," and "to shift funds from nuclear weapons systems to basic human needs."

Prominent Christian peace activists, as well as government and church officials, will speak at the convocation. Among them will be Dale Brown, former moderator of the pacifist Church of the Brethren; C. Welton Gaddy, pastor of Broadway Baptist Church, Fort Worth, Texas; Phil Strickland of the Christian Life Commission for the Baptist General Convention of Texas; U. S. Sen. Wendell Ford, D-Ken.; and William Dyess, assistant deputy secretary in the U. S. State Department.

Criswell has long been regarded as a champion of political and theological conservatism, and his statement on nuclear weaponry was seen by Baptist Press as an important boost for or-

ganizers of the Louisville meeting.

"Just because a man is fundamental and believes in the whole Bible does not mean he doesn't believe in world peace," Criswell told the Dallas Times Herald. "That is just a crazy idea of the left wing liberals."

"War is the most destructive of all realities we face in this life. And a nuclear war — can you imagine what that would mean today?"

Workshops at the convocation will deal with how to preach peace; practical peacemaking in local Baptist

churches; peacemaking, Southern Baptists and the political process; hunger, human rights, and peacemaking; how to teach peace biblically; and corporate worship, personal spirituality and peace.

Prime movers behind the convocation are Robert Parham, president of the student government at The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary who proposed the Atlanta peace resolution; and Glen Stassen, associate professor of Christian Ethics at the seminary.

Raising Growth Consciousness



Cummings

"I do not honestly believe that among our membership that we have a real growth consciousness," said Bryant Cummings to a group of 85 Sunday School teachers, officers, and church staff in the Gulfport area last week.

Cummings, director of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board's Sunday School Department, then proceeded to explain methods for raising that consciousness among Mississippi Baptist churches.

The meeting was the second of 19 Sunday School Teaching and Growth Conferences planned through the middle of the year, sponsored by the Sunday School Department.

Cummings defined church growth

as "to influence and disciple the greatest number of people for Jesus Christ."

He then listed basic church growth actions: 1 — exercise strong positive leadership building spirit for growth; 2 — establish evangelistic outreach as the number one church priority; 3 — make the Sunday School the major outreach organization; 4 — implement outreach through personal witnessing and visitation; 5 — extend the church's teaching and preaching ministries; 6 — practice priority planning.

Cummings' department staff took time to outline a number of growth projects for participants which included ACTION, enlargement cam-

(Continued on Page 2)

Couple Volunteers For Singapore Youth Work



Anne and Don Dent

Don and Anne Dent of Clinton have been named by the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board as mission volunteers for a nine month program of service in Singapore.

The two, both graduates of Mississippi College last year, will be going

officially as youth workers with the International Baptist Church in Singapore. Don reports that they will likely also do music and university student work and be involved in some followup to the December 1978 Billy Graham Crusade held in Singapore.

Anne Jones Dent is from Brookhaven and was a Mississippi Baptist Student Union-sponsored summer missionary to Kenya in 1978.

Don, from Holly Springs, was BSU president at MC, was state BSU vice president in 1978 and served two summers as a student summer missionary sponsored by the state BSU: in Oklahoma, 1975, and in Malaysia-Singapore, 1978.

The couple expected to leave for Singapore before the end of January.

Central Hills Bid Accepted

The S. L. Bailey Construction Co. of Kosciusko was the low bidder for the camp center building and bath houses at Central Hills Baptist Retreat near Kosciusko, and the contract will be awarded to that firm, according to Levon Moore, chairman of the Central Hills Development Committee.

Bailey's bid for the basic camp center building and two bath houses was \$396,749. The camp center building will contain the administration area, staff quarters, a kitchen, and a dining area.

The dining hall area will be 5,228 square feet, and the camp center portion will be 2,802 square feet. The bath houses will be 610 square feet each.

Bailey estimates 210 calendar days to complete the project. It will be constructed in phases, however, so that Royal Ambassador camping will go on

(Continued on Page 2)

Convention Housing

Address Change Causes Problems

HOUSTON (BP) — A change of address by Houston's convention housing bureau and the subsequent failure of the postal service to forward some housing forms is confusing registrants for the 1979 Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting.

That confusion, combined with the rapid filling of available hotel rooms

for the June 12-14 meeting, makes quick action by those who plan to attend the convention imperative.

Tim Hedquist, SBC convention manager, says about five percent of the housing forms being sent to the old address are being returned.

"Obviously, we deeply regret the inconvenience," Hedquist explained. "But the post office has been contacted weekly by the Houston Convention Bureau about the change. It's really been a problem for the convention bureau. Other conventions scheduled in Houston are having the same difficulty."

Hotel room requests should be sent to this new address: SBC Housing Bureau, 1522 Main Street, Houston, Texas, 77002.

Hedquist indicated that as of the fourth week in January, 73 percent of the reserved rooms are assigned and more than half of the designated hotels are completely full. No rooms are available in the following hotels: Albert

(Continued on Page 2)

Stewardship Workshop

A group of church and denominational leaders attended a two-day workshop January 15-16 at the Baptist Building, Jackson, studying the problem of the non-giving church family. Approximately 50 percent of the families of Southern Baptist churches give little or nothing to the support of the church and world missions. About 20 percent of the membership gives 80 percent of the income of the churches, according to John Alexander, director of the Stewardship Department, which sponsored the workshop. A program is being designed to assist churches in reaching and committing these non-giving church families. Those attending the workshop from Mississippi were: Guy Henderson, Curtis Beard, Tommy Baddley, Julius Thompson, Maurice Flowers, John Alexander, Ed North, Fred Womack, Ray Lloyd, and Clarence Cutrell. Those from out of state were: N. F. Greer, Montgomery, James Walker, Little Rock, and Ernest Standerfer and John Rush from Nashville.

The Word, Condensed

NEW YORK (RNS) — Reader's Digest is planning to try its famed talents for condensing books on another major work — the Bible.

One Digest editor said the project will involve "just a reduction in length, like any of our condensations. You simply take out what you can, without distorting what the author meant. Only in this case, the author has more stature than most."

The magazine has chosen the Revised Standard Version (RSV) for its condensation work. Attorneys for the periodical and for the Division of Education and Ministry of the National Council of Churches, which holds the copyright for the RSV, are working out details of a contract.

February 12-14, 1979

FBC, Meridian

Evangelism/Bible Conference

Monday Evening

Presiding — Roy Collum

6:45 "I will proclaim your greatness my God and King" — Psalm 145:1
Senita Webb, Calvin Isaac, Pianists; Dot Pray, Organist; Mike Burt, Trumpet

6:55 "My lips shall praise Thee" — Psalm 63:3
Janet Simpson

7:00 "Praise the Lord, O my soul" — Psalm 103:2 — Dan C. Hall, leading
Prayer

"Praise the Lord . . . you servants of His . . ." — Psalm 103:21
R. L. and Beth Sigrest

7:15 Welcome/Good News Mississippi Emphasis — Beverly Tinnin/Roy Collum

7:30 Bible Study — Clyde Francisco

8:10 "Praise the Lord, O my soul" — Psalm 103:2 — Dan C. Hall, leading
"Let them all praise the name of the Lord" — Psalm 148:5

Church Choir, FBC, Meridian / John Laughlin, Director, Emma Lois Bosarge, Organist; Carolyn Harwell, Pianist

8:25 "My lips shall praise Thee" — Psalm 63:3
Jeff Ben Ward, Soloist, Houston, Texas

8:35 Proclaim the Good News — John Bisagno

9:10 Benediction

Tuesday Morning

Presiding — Bryant Cummings

9:00 "I will proclaim your greatness my God and King" — Psalm 145:1
Senita Webb, Irene Martin, Pianists; Dot Pray, Organist

9:10 "Praise the Lord, O my soul" — Psalm 103:2 — J. B. Betts, leading
Prayer

Program Notes/Announcements

9:25 "My lips shall praise Thee" — Psalm 63:3 — Carl Bridgman

9:30 Proclaim the Good News — Russell Bush

10:00 Break

10:30 Conferences

11:30 Adjourn for Lunch

Tuesday Afternoon

Presiding — Roy Collum

1:45 "I will proclaim your greatness my God and King" — Psalm 145:1
Senita Webb and Irene Martin, Pianists; Dot Pray, Organist

1:55 "My lips shall praise Thee" — Psalm 63:3
Jerry Swimmer

2:00 "Praise the Lord, O my soul" — Psalm 103:2 — Jerry Swimmer, leading
Prayer

"My lips shall praise Thee" — Psalm 63:3 — Ann Colbert, Soloist; Nell Adams, Accompanist

2:15 Special Recognitions/Announcements — Bryant Cummings

2:25 "My lips shall praise Thee" — Psalm 63:3 — J. B. Betts

2:30 Bible Study — George Harrison

3:00 Break

3:30 Conferences

4:30 Adjourn

Tuesday Evening

Presiding — Bryant Cummings

6:45 "I will proclaim your greatness my God and King" — Psalm 145:1
Handbell Choir, Calvary Church, Meridian — Carl Bridgman, Director

6:55 "My lips shall praise Thee" — Psalm 63:3
Hubert Greer

7:00 "Praise the Lord, O my soul" — Psalm 103:2 — Tom Larrimore, leading
Prayer

"Praise the Lord . . . you servants of His" — Psalm 103:21
Jack Cochran Family, Poplar Springs Drive Church, Meridian

7:15 Program Notes/Announcements

7:25 Bible Study — Earl Davis

8:05 "Praise the Lord, O my soul" — Psalm 103:2 — Tom Larrimore, leading
"My lips shall praise Thee" — Psalm 63:3 — Martha Branham (Mini Sacred Concert) Charles Endsley, Accompanist

8:25 Proclaim the Good News — C. B. Hogue

8:55 Season of Prayer

9:10 Adjourn

Wednesday Morning

Presiding — Roy Collum

8:45 "I will proclaim your greatness my God and King" — Psalm 145:1
Senita Webb and Irene Martin, Pianist; Dot Pray, Organist

8:55 "Praise the Lord, O my soul" — Psalm 103:2 — Kathy Barfield, leading
Prayer

"My lips shall praise Thee" — Psalm 63:3
Suzanne Nobles, Professor of Voice, Clarke College

9:05 Bible Study — Clyde Francisco

9:45 "Praise the Lord, O my soul" — Psalm 103:2 — Kathy Barfield, leading
"Praise the Lord . . . you servants of His . . ." — Psalm 103:21

Bill and Marian Lee (Mini Concert — Music Evangelists)

Don Moore

Diane and Tommy Winders

Myrna Loy Hedgepeth and Cecil L. Harper

10:05 "Praise the Lord, O my soul" — Psalm 103:2 — Kathy Barfield, leading
"Be still and know that I am God" — Psalm 46:10 — Calvin Permenter

10:15 Proclaim the Good News — C. B. Hogue

10:45 "Praise the Lord, O my soul" — Psalm 103:2 — Kathy Barfield, leading
"My lips shall praise Thee" — Psalm 63:3 — Martha Branham

10:55 Proclaim the Good News — E. V. Hill

11:25 Season of Prayer

11:40 Amen

Training

Here is a partial listing of churches and associations holding special events and training in preparation for Good News Mississippi.

Good News Mississippi is a joint evangelistic effort of black and white Baptist churches in the state to reach out to win the lost to Jesus Christ.

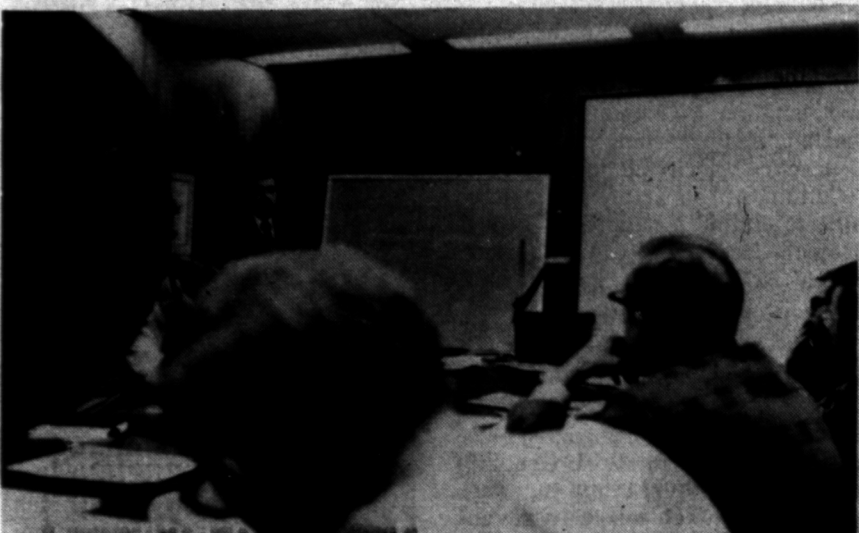
Other churches and associations wishing to have witness training or clinics in preparation for revival, may contact Roy Collum, Department of Evangelism, Box 530, Jackson, Miss. 39205, or phone 354-3704. Collum can help in scheduling such training.

Besides the special training going on around the state, Good News Mississippi includes a kick off rally, the evening of March 23, at 7 p.m., in the municipal auditorium in Jackson, then, throughout April — simultaneous revival in black and white churches all over the state.

Speakers for the Good News Mississippi Rally are W. A. Criswell, pastor of First Baptist Church, Dallas, Tex., and Caesar Clark, pastor of Good Street Missionary Baptist Church, also in Dallas.

Nashville — A Pastors/Wives Bible Conference will be held April 16-20 at Ridgecrest Baptist Conference Center. Dr. and Mrs. J. Winston Pearce and Dr. and Mrs. Frank Staggs will serve as leaders.

Singapore (RNS) — The Inter-Religious Organization (IRO) of Singapore issued an appeal "for tolerance in the propagation of religious beliefs," directed particularly at Christians. It deplored what it calls the "overenthusiasm" which some people bring to "door to door religious propaganda which has resulted in a somewhat insensitive approach to adherents of different religions."



Church Extension Training

A Church Extension Approved Worker Training Conference held at the Baptist Building for church extension workers was held by Nelson Tilton and David Benham of the Home Mission Board and Ray Grissett of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board. Nelson Tilton, associate director of Church extension Home Mission Board, is at the chalkboard presenting concepts of church extension ministries that can be conducted through properly trained associational and church missions committees. Those attending the training were: M. C. Johnson, Greenwood; Norman O'Neal, Clinton; Glen Schilling, Mendenhall; J. C. Mitchell, Columbus; Jerry Stevens, Columbus; Robert Tate, Gulfport; B. F. Smith, Hattiesburg; Lewis Gooch, Shaw; Odie Henderson, Cleveland; Holmes Carlisle, Forest; Lavon Hatten, Winona. These men are available for special church extension training and assistance through the Cooperative Missions Dept., Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

MSU BSU Travels To Oshkosh To Help Out

By Ircel Harrison
Campus Minister, MSU

What has ten ears, ten eyes, talks with a Northern accent, and can be found in Oshkosh, Wisconsin? Why, the new Baptist Student Union at the University of Wisconsin, Oshkosh, of course.

Composed of five students, the BSU at UW-Oshkosh has embarked on a program of Christian growth and outreach on their campus of 10,000. They have found allies in a group of students from the BSU at Mississippi State University.

Six students and the BSU director from MSU went to Oshkosh during the first week in January to "scout" the situation. They participated in the group's regular Thursday night Bible study, stayed with them in the dorms, had times of fellowship together, visited faculty and students on-campus, and went cross-country skiing in sub-zero temperatures.

If the temperature was chilly, the chemistry of Christian fellowship produced warmth. This was evident on Sunday morning when the groups joined together to lead in the worship service at Lower Lake Baptist Chapel in Fond du Lac, near Oshkosh. The chapel's pastor, David Griffin, is volunteer BSU director at Oshkosh.

What was the purpose behind all of this? Ircel Harrison, BSU director at MSU, cites two goals: "First, we want to serve as a resource for this group as they begin a new ministry at UW-Oshkosh. We cannot do it for them, but we are ready to help in whatever way they want us. Second, we hope this will rekindle among our students a vision of what campus outreach is all about. There is always a danger that we will grow complacent down here in the Bible belt and fail to follow through on the opportunities available to us."

Members of the MSU team were Harrison; Jan Thomas, BSU graduate assistant from Vicksburg; Steve Grafton, BSU president, Pascagoula; Mark Gregory, Witness director, Carthage; Linda Powell, Publicity director, Jackson; Kathy Jennings, Brandon; and Eric Partridge, Vic-

Lay Evangelism Schools:

1978: Scott Assoc. LES. Held at Ephesus B. C. 10/2-5/78
(5 Churches Participating. Avg. Attendance 38.
Professions of faith on Witness Night — 5)

WIN Leadership Institute with National Baptists — Sophia Sutton
12/7, 8/78

1979: Copiah Assoc. LES FBC, Hazlehurst 1/22-25
(3 Churches participating Avg. Attendance 18.)

Associational Evangelism Clinics devoted to Preparation for GNM:

1978—1/5/78 Lamar Association — Richburg B. C.

1/31/78 Prentiss Assoc. Pleasant Grove B. C.

4/11/78 Attala Assoc. McCool B. C.

5/6/78 Lafayette Assoc. FBC, Oxford

5/29/78 Lowndes Assoc. Fairview B. C., Columbus

1979—1/2/79 Prentiss Assoc. Evang. Clinic Booneville

1/15, 16/79 — Revival Preparation Clinics, Gulf Coast Assoc. FBC Pass Christian, FBC, Perkinston, Immanuel B. C., Biloxi

2/5/79 — LeFlore Evang. Clinic — Calvary B. C., Greenwood

2/6/79 — Attala Evang. Clinic — FBC, Kosciusko

2/26/79 Marshall Assoc. Evang. Clinic, FBC, Holly Springs

3/22/Quitman Assoc. Evang. Rally —

2/26 Jasper Assn.

Good News Miss. Witness Training Schools

(Involving two nights of concentrated training using the Tell Witness Training Machines/modules.)

1978—10/30, 31 — East Moss Point B. C. (Jackson Assoc.)

1979—2/19, 20 Three Simultaneous Schools in Jackson Assoc.

3/5, 6 — Petal Harvey B. C.

3/14, 15 — Calvary B. C., Columbus

Vocational Evangelists Will Meet During Bible/Evangelism Conference

Mississippi's vocational evangelists will participate in the state Evangelism/Bible Conference Feb. 12-14 at First Church, Meridian.

On Monday night, Feb. 12, following the session, the evangelists will sponsor a get-acquainted fellowship in the parlor of First Church, Meridian. All those attending the conference are invited.

On Tuesday morning, Feb. 13, there will be a breakfast meeting at Weidman's at 7:30 a.m. for full-time music and preaching evangelists. This will be an inspirational type meeting sponsored by the Evangelism and Music departments of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board. It will be a business meeting, too, and new officers will be elected for the Mississippi Fellowship of Baptist Evangelists.

Central Hills Bid Accepted

(Continued from Page 1)

there this summer, according to Paul Harrell, director of the Brotherhood Department.

The campers will be housed this summer and the following years in permanent two-person tents standing on platforms. These will be in place by summer. The bath houses also will have been completed, Bailey indicated.

For the coming summer's camping, the retreat will have horses, a lake, a swimming pool, a recreation area, an amphitheater, and nature trails in addition to the tent camping area and the bath houses. The serving of meals will

be handled in whatever way seems the most practical this summer, Harrell said.

With the completion of the camp center building the expenditure at the retreat site will have amounted to about \$720,000 of the \$850,000 authorized by the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board on May 5 of last year. Some amount of site preparation already had been paid for at that time.

The remaining \$130,000 will be used for furnishings, architect and engineering fees, and landscape development. The kitchen equipment is included in the bid price.

Ministry To Spanish Begins

(Continued from Page 1)

sion meets in the facilities of the sponsoring church.

Camacho will be working part time to develop the congregation and offer ministries to the Spanish speaking people in the area, while attending New Orleans Seminary. He and his wife Carmen and their children live in Biloxi.

"They can hear God's word in the language of their hearts," says Camacho, "and they will respond." He says he can already see the beginning of a strong church among the Spanish speaking people.

speaking people.

"This ministry will be a blessing to our church because now we can see our mission money in action," says Frank Gunn, pastor of Biloxi First Church. "Some of what we are giving to the association and the Cooperative Program is being spent right here in our community. Our people will be a part of missions."

Sam Turner, Gulf Coast association's director of missions adds, "It's a real cooperative ministry. Every unit of our convention is participating and each is necessary to the other."

1978 State Youth Evangelism Conference

The 1978 State Youth Evangelism Conference, Dec. 28-29 in Jackson drew 850 registrants plus another 500 youths for the worship celebrations.

Reports from the conference indicated that entertainer Kay DeKalb had standing ovations after her segments of the program. And Randy Williams, evangelist from Bedford, Tex., gave powerful messages on outright Christian commitment and the displaying of fruits of the Spirit, according to Donn Poole, minister of youth at the host church, Broadmoor Baptist.

Mike Warnke, former satanist-turned Christian, and the Cruse Family closed out the conference to a packed house — people even standing in the foyer trying to hear the program.

The conclusion of the conference, sponsored by the Mississippi Baptist Evangelism Department, brought more than 200 decisions — ranging from commitment to Christianity to full time Christian service to salvation or rededication.

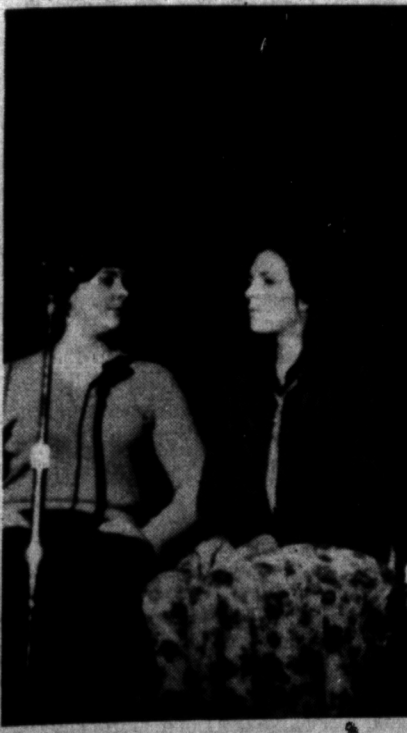
Information on program personalities' addresses and on tapes made at the conference is below.

Personalities' addresses are: Randy Williams, Box 799, Bedford, Tex., 76021; Kay DeKalb, 1006 Maplewood Lane, Nashville, Tenn., 37234; Cruse Family, Box 1899, Jacksonville, Tex., 75766; and Mike Warnke, Dharma Artist Agency, Inc., Box 40367, Nashville, Tenn., 37204.

Tapes were made of most conference sessions and are available for \$4 to Youth Conference Tapes, Donn Poole, Broadmoor Baptist Church, 787 E. Northside Dr., Jackson, Miss., 39206.

Tapes are: No. 1 — Mike Warnke Friday afternoon, Cruse Family; No. 2

— Mike Warnke Friday evening, Cruse Family; No. 3 — Randy Williams Friday morning, Cruse Family; No. 4 — Kay DeKalb (music only), Randal Trull; No. 5 — Seminar I, Randal Trull; No. 6 — Seminar II, Randal Trull; No. 7 — Seminar III, Randal Trull; No. 8 — Seminar I, Donn Poole; No. 9 — Seminars II & III, Donn Poole; No. 10 — Singing groups and testimonies, solos.



Dana Tadlock and Lynn Burt of "The Messengers" act out a dramatization. They are members of a drama and puppet group at Broadmoor church.

Gulf Coast Plans Workshop On Parenting

The Gulf Coast Baptist Association is sponsoring a Parenting Workshop at First Baptist Church, Gulfport, Feb. 23.

Featured speakers on the program, according to Bob Tate, associational Christian social ministries director, include Mrs. Margaret Hensley, Jackson, housewife, Mrs. Annette Hitt, director of religious education for the Baptist Children's Village, and George Lee, director of missions for Lawrence, Marion, and Walthall Baptist Associations. Mrs. Hensley is the wife of Clark Hensley, director of the Mississippi Christian Action Commission.

Topics for the conference are "Building Self Esteem," "Parent-Child Communication," and "Disciplining Your Child." The film "Cipher in the Snow" will be shown.

Tate stresses that the workshop is for all parents — not just for those with special problems. "The idea is that we train ourselves for ministry," says Tate. "And as our neighbors develop trust in us where they would share their problems," he says, "it's good to be ready to minister."

Sessions, which are open to the public, begin at 7 p.m., Friday, and end at noon Saturday.

Protestants, Catholics Support FTC Proposal

NEW YORK (RNS) — Twenty-five representatives of Protestant and Catholic organizations affiliated with the Interfaith Center for Corporate Responsibility have supported a proposal before the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) which would restrict advertising on children's television.

The three-part recommendation of the staff of the federal agency includes a ban of all advertising on programs

aimed at the very young, a ban of advertising for sugared products for older children and the placement of reconstructive ads for children's programs, paid for by advertisers, warning of sugar abuse.

In addition to the staff suggestions, the members of the National Council of Churches-related organization said, "We hope that companies will begin now to regulate themselves voluntarily."

Growth Consciousness

(Continued from Page 1)

paings, adult-start-a-class, young adults away, cradle roll ministry, the one-on-one enrollment plan, and the growth spiral.

The two and one half hour meeting was divided between general information about church growth and between age group conferences to aid in effective Bible teaching.

In January and early February, other conference places were Moss Point, Carriere, Natchez, Yazoo City, and Greenville.

Upcoming conference dates and places (each lasting 7-9:30 p.m.) are as follows: Feb. 5, Canton, First; March 1, Meridian, Highland; March 5, Raleigh, First; March 6, Forest, Forest; March 22, Louisville, First; May 21, Lexington, First; May 22, Eupora, First; May 24, Grenada, First; May 29, Columbus, First; May 31, Tupelo, East Heights; June 18, Hernando, Hernando; June 19, Holly Springs, First; June 21, Batesville, First.



Christian Action Commission officers left to right are: Clark Hensley, George Lee, Charles Myers, and W. W. Walley.

Christian Action Holds Semi-Annual Meeting

The semi-annual meeting of the Christian Action Commission was held at the Baptist Building January 25th. New officers elected were: W. W. Walley of Waynesboro, chairperson; Charles Myers, Jackson, vice chairperson; and George Lee, Columbia, secretary.

Outgoing officers are: Macklyn Hubbell, Cleveland, chairperson; George Lee, Columbia, vice chairperson; and Jackie Hamilton, Meridian, secretary.

By common consent, the Commission chairman does not serve more than two years in succession. However, this was Hubbell's second stint as chairperson, having served as chairman during his former tenure on the Commission.

Plans were forwarded for Family Week at Gulfshore this summer and members decided that the weekend following Family Week would be designated as Singles Retreat, including both the never-married and the formerly-married singles. This special event will begin on Friday evening, July 6 and end Sunday noon, July 8.

The Commission is setting up a telephone network across the state among

the consultants and other leaders to get quick information as needed to the Baptist constituency.

Other action included amending the retirement policy to bring it into conformity with the policy of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board and a special committee was formed to study the personnel policy concerning the executive director and to report any recommendations or changes they feel may be advisable.

This is being done at the request of the executive director in view of the fact that no such study has been made since the beginning of the work of the Commission in 1966.

Considerable discussion was given as to how to promote World Hunger Day and make Mississippi Baptists aware that world hunger is a vital issue.

Attention was called to a special committee that was authorized toward education concerning gambling which is being chaired by Attorney Tom Sims of Richton, Mississippi. Some plans will be announced soon for an educational program for the churches on this matter.

The next Commission meeting will be held September 7 in Jackson.



"His Kids" from First Baptist Church, Kosciusko sang under the direction of Bob Taylor.



The Cruse Family from Jacksonville, Tex.

Last Of Relief Funds Went To Indochinese

RICHMOND, Va. (BP) — Indochinese refugees in Thailand will benefit from more than \$63,000 in hunger and relief funds appropriated by the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board during its December meeting.

Funds earmarked for refugees in Thailand will provide basic necessities, such as clothing and temporary shelter, tools and seeds for agriculture projects and supplemental food.

"Recent news articles have highlighted the plight of these refugees, but their problems have been there ever since Vietnam fell to the Communists," said William R. Wakefield, the board's secretary for Southeast Asia.

The \$63,000, included in more than \$64,000 appropriated for relief and hunger needs around the world, is part of the board's continuing relief efforts for Indochinese refugees. This amount brings the 1978 figure to \$78,500. In 1977, the board appropriated \$81,000 for needs of the refugees.

For a while, Thailand refused entry for "boat people," those refugees who escape by sea, but more are being accepted into the Thai refugee camps since western governments have promised to resettle larger numbers of refugees, Wakefield said. Conditions are not good and space is limited, he explained. One camp in Thailand, built to hold 300 refugees, now houses 2,000.

And with as many as 500,000 Indochinese refugees seeking freedom in the next year, according to "U.S. News and World Report" estimates, even U.S. plans to double the refugee intake to 47,500 a year seem insignificant. "Newsweek" also reported that some officials estimate as many as two million people may try to leave Vietnam.

An increasingly large proportion of recent refugees includes Chinese people who have been forced to leave because of racial persecution and a tightening of regulations on small businesses, in which many of them were engaged prior to Vietnam's takeover.

Wakefield said he anticipates a "long range, fairly intensive ministry to the refugees with an emphasis on resettlement."

The Southern Baptist Home Mission Board, too, has an eye on resettlement of these refugees, recently hiring Gene Tunnell, a former foreign missionary to Vietnam and Honduras, as consultant on refugees. Tunnell said the Home Mission Board wants to involve more individuals and churches in resettlement. To date, only about two percent of Southern Baptist churches in the States have sponsored a refugee or family.

The Asian refugee problem will not disappear in a few months or even a few years, Tunnell and Wakefield agree, noting that more money and personnel will be needed to minister to them.

Wakefield said all of the volunteers and special project workers sent by the Foreign Mission Board to work with refugees in Thailand have extended their time of service and one (Doug Kellum, a Mississippian) has returned after a few months in the States. "I think this points up the obvious needs there," said Wakefield, who added, "I see the need for increasing sums of money, especially for relief of physical needs."

In addition to money for relief work with refugees, the board reported a need for money to replenish the nearly depleted general relief fund.

Other relief appropriations made in December will go to help rebuild churches and homes damaged in recent storms in Korea and Honduras, Sri Lanka and Brazil. Funds also were designated for war relief in Lebanon and hunger relief in India, Bangladesh and Tanzania.

Needed: Bible Study

By John Alexander, Director
Stewardship Department

The missionary movement recorded in the book of Acts was born in the incubator of intensive Bible study following a revival where a great number believed and turned to the Lord. It is reported in Acts 11:25 that "Barnabas departed to Tarsus, for to seek Saul. And when he found him he brought him to Antioch. And it came to pass, THAT A WHOLE YEAR THEY ASSEMBLED THEMSELVES WITH THE CHURCH, AND TAUGHT MUCH PEOPLE. And the disciples were called Christians first in Antioch."

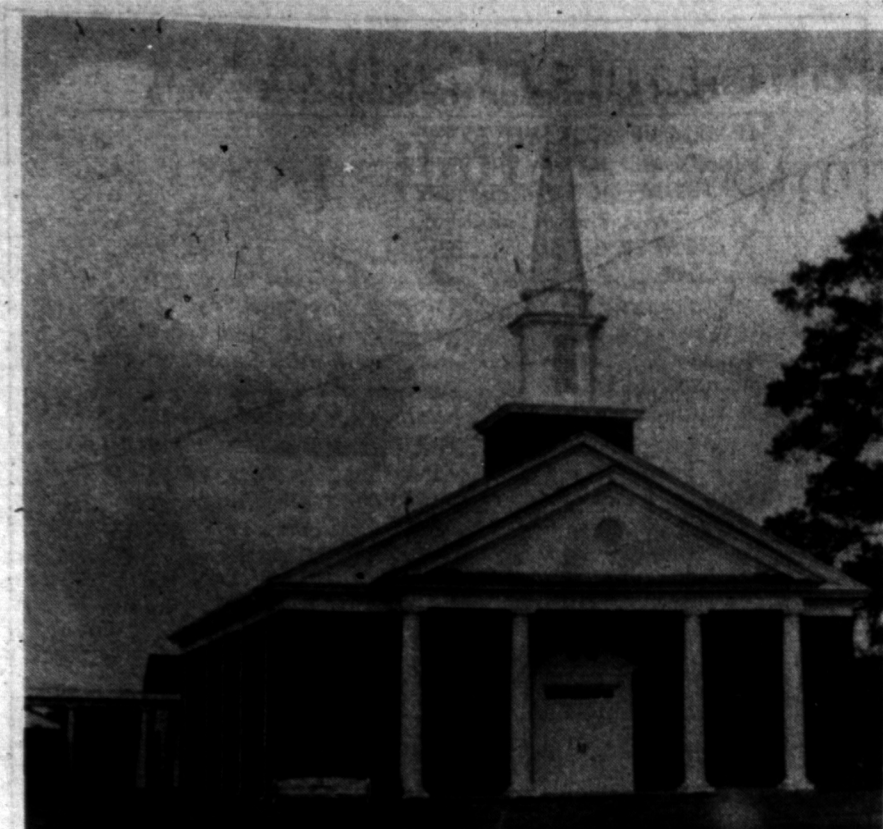
Continuing the report on the Antioch church, Luke tells us in Acts 13:2. "As they ministered to the Lord, and fasted, the Holy Spirit said, Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them. And when they had fasted and prayed, and laid their hands on them, they sent them away."

Great revivals and missionary movements of the past have been linked with or evolved out of intensive Bible study and prayer. As I travel over the state and go into many churches, I am amazed at the lack of real intensive study of the scriptures. I believe this is a very serious mistake, a deficiency that affects all that we do! The church that is failing to provide for and actively engage large numbers of its mature members in in-depth Bible study is developing an anemic membership that will lack the spiritual depth or stamina to do the work of the Lord boldly and effectively. There is absolutely no substitute for serious Bible study in the life of a growing Christian!

It is my conviction that the pastor is the chief Bible teacher of the church. If a church insists that he spend a major part of his time away from the study patting the members on the back, they are hurting themselves as a church. If they give him at least two days each week in his study and insist that he prepare to preach and teach the Bible they are helping themselves!

The Bible is God's message to man and it is communicated best through committed people who are willing to pray, study, and prepare to teach and preach. Every church desperately needs Bible study that goes beyond two sermons on Sunday and a talk on Wednesday night.

The man who will take this kind of care of his congregation will not only save himself, but those who hear him. Modern missions suffers from a lack of real in-depth teaching and study of the scriptures. No greater service can any man render his membership than to equip them for service through serious, in-depth Bible study.



Heuck's Retreat Church Dedicates Sanctuary

Heuck's Retreat Church, Brookhaven has dedicated its new sanctuary. Jewell Kyzar delivered the dedication message. H. D. Swindall, pastor, led in the service of dedication.

Capacity crowds attended worship services on dedication day. The church choir presented special music led by Mrs. Hamp (Sherra) Smith, music director.

The church was organized in 1903, and the new sanctuary is on the same spot where the old one was built around 75 years ago.

The colonial style brick structure was completed at a cost of \$208,630, including furnishings and equipment and stained glass windows.

Those on the building committee were L. E. Smith, Perry Smith, Joe Beeson, Virginia Nesmith, Jewell H. Smith, Randolph Smith, Steve Wells, Jerry Ratliff, Joe Reynolds, Ross Jackson, Alvin Smith, and Steve Smith, chairman.

Nigeria Missionary Still Ill

NEW YORK (BP) — Maxine (Mrs. Gordon E.) Robinson, Southern Baptist missionary to Nigeria, is still in critical condition in a New York City hospital following the rupture of a cerebral aneurysm.

Mrs. Robinson was hospitalized Jan. 3 in Ibadan, Nigeria, where she and her husband are active in church development. She was flown to the Presbyterian Hospital in New York for treatment at its neurological institute Jan. 12.

She was accompanied by her husband and John Tarpley, a missionary physician, son of Hinds-Madison Associates Director of Missions, Fred Tarpley. Mrs. Robinson's condition must stabilize before the aneurysm, an enlarged area of a blood vessel, can be surgically removed.

A native of Mullin, Texas, Mrs. Robinson was appointed in 1955. The Robinsons have two children, both of whom remained in Nigeria in school.

Two Building Conferences Set For Early March

The first of two Church Building Conferences will be held in the new building on the new location of First Baptist Church, Natchez, March 1, 1979 at 1:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

"This type of building could well be the Mississippi Baptist church design of the 21st Century," says convention architecture consultant Dennis Conniff.

A sound movie is being made of this building and will be shown early in the program. A walk through the building, will be guided by the staff and planning and building committee members following the film.

Following the film and walk through, a panel will be assembled to answer questions. The panel will be composed of the architect, three engineers, planning committee members, building committee members, pastor, minister of education, minister of music, Dan Hall (director, church music department, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board), Evelyn George (consultant, Church Training Department, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board), and the contractor.

Plans of multi-use buildings for churches with smaller membership will be on display and available.

The second of the Church Building Conferences will be held in the new building of First Baptist Church of Horn Lake on March 5, 1979 from 1:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

This building, like First Baptist Church of Natchez, is a multi-use building that provides for 800 in Sunday School, 900 in worship, 750 in fellowship, with recreation facilities for basketball, skating, and volleyball. The design is that of the 21st Century Church, according to Conniff.

Plans for this building were the first drawn for this type of building in Mississippi.

Program personalities will be the architect, three engineers, planning and building committee, and others related to the various programs to be provided by First Baptist Church of Horn Lake.

Court Avoids New Debate Over Religion In Schools

By Stan Hastey
WASHINGTON (BP) — By a 7-2 vote, the Supreme Court refused to re-open the fierce debate over the role of religion in public schools.

Over the dissents of justices William J. Brennan Jr., and Thurgood Marshall, the high court declined to hear a case challenging Florida's law requiring school teachers "to inculcate... the practice of every Christian virtue." Also at issue in the case was a challenge to the distribution of Bibles on school premises by the Gideons.

The controversy began in August 1970, when the Orange County (Orlando) Board of Public Instruction adopted a resolution requiring every school to conduct a five to seven-minute period of meditation at the beginning of each school day. The resolution specifically called for the inclusion of Bible reading and prayer to be presented by individual school officials, teachers, students, or by groups and organizations.

At the same meeting, a member of the Gideon organization asked for, and received, permission to distribute Bibles in the county's schools.

A group of 39 parents, who claimed that the resolution violated their religious rights, filed suit in a federal district court but their complaint was dismissed. Their appeal reached the Supreme Court, where the school board urged the justices not to hear the case in light of the fact that no religious exercises have been conducted in Orlando's schools for more than seven years. Likewise, the board argued, the practice of allowing the Gideons to distribute Bibles in the schools had also been discontinued shortly after the suit by the parents was filed.

The board also asked the justices to accept the district court's finding "that there was no evidence showing a present or likelihood of future enforcement of the 'Christian virtues' statute."

The parents' statement to the high court, while failing to mention that the school board had ceased to enforce its resolution shortly after its adoption, nevertheless asked the high court to invalidate it. They also asked the justices to strike down the "Christian virtue" portion of the state law.

(Hastey is on the Baptist Joint Committee Staff.)

Staff Change

Jimmy Martin, formerly of First Church, Tutwiler, has assumed the pastorate of Green's Creek Church, Petal.

Pastoral Care Seminar Set For Feb. 20

The nineteenth annual pastoral care seminar will be held at the Baptist Medical Center in Jackson on February 20th. The theme for this year's meeting on the pastoral care of the ill is "A Team Ministry in Family Practice."

Resource persons for the days' activity beginning with registration and coffee at 9:30 a.m. in the Gilroy Unit Amphitheater are Kenneth Pepper, director of the Counseling and Education Center of Dallas, Texas, and Glenn F. Morris, who is in general and family medicine practice in Jackson, Mississippi.

Morning sessions will begin at 9:55 a.m., followed by luncheon in the hospital cafeteria and adjournment at 3:10 p.m. Parking will be provided in the parking lot next to the Jackson Bone and Joint Clinic on Carlisle Street, across the street and south of the old Baptist Hospital building.

The seminar is annually sponsored by the Department of Pastoral Care, Baptist Medical Center, and the Christian Action Commission of the Mississippi Baptist Convention. Clergymen and guests of all faiths are invited.

Singles Retreat Planned For Wall Doxey Park



The Hensleys

A Spring Singles Renewal will be held at the Wall Doxey Park, Holly Springs, March 2 and 3. The theme will be "Beyond Coping: Growth."

Resource persons will be John C. Howell, Academic Dean and Professor of Christian Ethics, Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Kansas City, and the J. Clark Hensleys of Jackson.

The retreat is jointly sponsored by the First Baptist Church of Oxford, and the Christian Action Commission of Mississippi Baptist Convention.

It will begin with supper at 6 p.m. on Friday and adjourn at 3:30 p.m. on Saturday.

The total cost will be \$15.00 which includes registration, three meals and overnight lodging. This reservation should be made by sending the \$15.00 by February 15 to George McFadin, 800 Van Buren St., Oxford, MS 38655.

After February 15, persons interested in attending should inquire about available space before sending in the fee by writing or calling McFadin at First Baptist Church, Oxford.

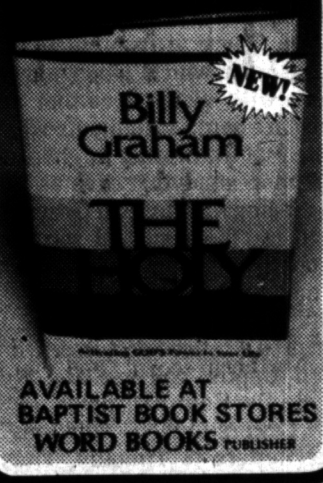
Mississippi Baptist Activities

Mon., Feb. 5 Sunday School Teaching and Growth Conference, First Baptist Church, Canton, 7:00-9:30 p.m.

FEBRUARY, 1979

Sunday School	WORKER TRAINING Plan a training school for Sunday School leadership in the local church. If Association is conducting a training school, promote attendance. RIDGECREST/OLIVEA RESERVATIONS, FEBRUARY 1 Reservations will not be accepted until February 1, 1979.
Church Training	CONDUCT A "SPECIAL TRAINING NEEDS" INVENTORY Through all adult and youth Sunday School departments conduct a survey to identify special needs of the church which can be converted into Church Training program planning for the April-June or October-December quarters. These might be: deacon training, parent-teen relationships, the church and the single again, the one-parent family, study of a specific doctrine, etc.
Church Music	KEYBOARD PARTICIPANTS Schedule Keyboard Festival participants to play in the Wednesday night and/or Sunday evening services. CHOIR MEMORIZATION MONTH Work toward goals for youth and adult choirs in music to be memorized. HYMN OF THE MONTH "In the Garden", #428.
Brotherhood	HOME MISSION GRADED SERIES STUDY, FEBRUARY 18-21 Planning materials are in the January-March issue of <i>Brotherhood Builder</i> . Study Guides may be purchased from the Baptist Book Store. CONDUCT A FOCUS ON MINISTRY SURVEY Using the Church Guide, "Focus on Ministry", churches may identify and select one or more mission ministry projects for the year. Secure Survey Guide from the Brotherhood Department.
Woman's Missionary Union	WMU FOCUS WEEK, FEBRUARY 11-17 Emphasis on WMU given to entire church membership. Plans will be given in January-March issue of <i>Dimension</i> magazine. CHURCHWIDE STUDY OF THE HOME MISSION GRADED SERIES BOOKS, FEBRUARY 18-21 Plans and suggestions given in January-March issue of <i>Dimension</i> magazine.
Church Administration - Pastoral Ministries	REMINDER, FEBRUARY 1 Order literature for April, May, and June.
Christian Action Commission	CHRISTIAN ACTION EMPHASIS MEETINGS IN THE ASSOCIATIONS Lead your Church Council and other leaders to participate in your association's Christian Action Emphasis with alertness to legislative matters of moral concern.
Stewardship	REMINDERS Distribute stewardship tract at morning worship service. Place information on Cooperative Program dollar distribution in your church publications or order tracts on this from your state Stewardship Department and distribute.
Evangelism	ACTIVATE INACTIVE RESIDENT MEMBERS Each deacon is given the responsibility of ministering to 12 to 15 church member families. He can identify those who are active and inactive and involve other church members capable of filling the needs of these members. All may encourage participation in the life of the church. GOOD NEWS (MISSISSIPPI) Concentrate on preparation for simultaneous revivals in April.

Read Billy Graham's new best seller and discover how the Holy Spirit can change your life!



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The Baptist Record

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

Editorials

Evangelism-Bible Conference . . .

Two Meetings Are Now One

As has been the past experience, the annual Mississippi Baptist Evangelism Conference this year offers a program of interest that will provide inspiration to all who attend. This year, however, a new dimension has been added in that elements of the annual Bible Conference have been incorporated into the Evangelism Conference; and that offers a decidedly attractive package.

The Evangelism Conference long has been a favorite meeting for Mississippi Baptists, particularly church staff people. It provides an opportunity of revitalizing the ministry and renewing the commitment. In 1976 the Bible Conference was initiated to offer a state-wide Bible study period with the nation's finest scholars and speakers. Perhaps some have had to make a

choice on which to attend, since they usually were about six weeks apart.

Now they are the same conference. If there was ever a double-barrelled program, this is it. It meets Feb. 12 to 14 at First Baptist Church in Meridian. This year the name has been changed to Evangelism-Bible Conference, and readers for the past month have seen front page stories in the Baptist Record giving information on personalities and program content.

The combining of these two conferences into one was a wise move and one that will prove beneficial over the years to Mississippians — the many thousands in the pews as well as the several hundreds who attend the conference every year. This conference provides the opportunity of being in touch with the most widely recognized

theologians that could be found in the nation.

To refresh the memory, the principal speakers will be C. B. Hogue, director of the Evangelism Section of the Home Mission Board; John Bisagno, pastor of First Church, Houston, Texas, a church which is a perennial leader in baptisms; and E. V. Hill, pastor of the Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Church in Los Angeles.

Hill is a black pastor in the Watts section of that sprawling city who has been recognized by both black and white leaders as a stabilizing force in an explosive situation. Once the area did explode, and Hill's influence kept the situation from being much worse than it was. Hill is not a champion of the rights of black people. He champions the rights of all people, and he preaches the responsibility that goes

along with the rights. He has a message that is beginning to be heard all over America.

A great line-up of seminary professors, college professors, pastors, and a retired Sunday School Board staff member will discuss in conference settings such subjects as perseverance of the saints, the Trinity, sin, the atonement, sanctification and regeneration, baptism, and election.

Among the musicians are Martha Branham, the Dallas soloist who is always a favorite in Mississippi.

The Evangelism Conference has been fine, and the Bible Conference has been fine. Now you can have both for just the expense and effort of going to one.

That seems to be a worthwhile bargain.



Faces And Places

By Anne Washburn McWilliams

"A Well Of Water. . ."

Since Mama has been a widow we've discovered her hidden talents. We knew she was a topnotch cook and seamstress, but didn't know she was a bookkeeper, carpenter, painter, and plumber.

Dig a well, though, she cannot do. Two practically rainless summers dried up the well at her home in east Alabama. It was a well that had been in use for at least 100 years. Owners of an antebellum mansion used its water until the mansion burned. For all I know the well could have been dug by Chief Kar Pik Char Harjo, Creek Indian who owned the land up to 1839.

Mama hated terribly to give up that old well. She bought a new pump, but that didn't help. (Water has been piped to the house for a long time now.) She hired men to climb down into the well and clean it out. They sent up a few buckets of mud and told her she'd have water by night, but she didn't.

For six months she hauled water in plastic jugs from neighbors' houses and from Aunt Lura Earl and Uncle Zeddie's house. Finally, the week after Christmas, while W. D. and I were there, a well digger came with his modern machinery, and bored a deeper well. Mama is ready for a celebration, for she has water again — if the pipes don't freeze or the sink doesn't stop up, or the hot water heater doesn't blow up.

I mourn the passing of the old well, too. Of course, I never cared much in the old days for drawing water to fill the wash tubs. But happiness was a drink of fresh water straight from the bucket. I watched Daddy and Grandpa, thirsty and hot from plowing, tip the bucket and drink from the edge. When I tried that, water sloshed all over me. It was better just to dip my nose and chin in, and drink from the top.

Once when I was in the hospital and all liquid in-take was through my veins, I kept dreaming of drinking water from that well, drinking it from a gourd dipper. In my feverish state I could imagine nothing more desirable. Talking about thirst, I guess the

thirstiest I have ever been was on a train in the middle of France.

Joan and I left Victoria Station in London at 2 p.m. on the boat train for Folkestone Harbor. Long lines through customs and a packed boat across the channel left us no time or way to eat or drink much. We did manage to get a Coke, and divide a chocolate bar.

At Calais the train for Switzerland was ready to leave. In a rush we got on the end car and then struggled all the way down through the long train to our car, pushing and pulling our luggage, stepping over people and their bags in the aisles. I had a big suitcase, a little flight bag, an umbrella, a heavy purse, a camera, a coat, and a blister on my hand.

In the roomette we had reserved, a man and his wife had already claimed the bottom bunks so we gritted our teeth and hoisted our belongings to the top ones. Then eagerly we asked, "How far is the dining car?"

"But this is the night train. Didn't you know it carries no food or water?" The kind woman gave us half a cheese sandwich each and a piece of fruit cake from the supper she'd had the foresight to prepare. Then we were more thirsty than before.

In the bathroom a sign said, "Don't drink the water," but I brushed my teeth with it. And I took three swallows and hoped they wouldn't kill me.

In Basle at 5:30 in the morning we had no Swiss money to buy a drink, so several more hours passed before we could quench our thirst.

I recommend Hotel Hirschen at Gunten. Not only does it have a view of Lake Thun and the Alps, but it serves wonderful water.

Jesus had spent time in the desert wilderness and knew the meaning of thirst. He painted for the woman of Samaria a vivid word picture of that which would soothe her parched soul: "Whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall become in him a well of water springing up to eternal life" (John 4:13, 14 NASB).

Baptist World Alliance . . .

An Arm Of Care For The World

Baptists in 120 nations are united in purpose through the Baptist World Alliance. There are 29 million of us, and we are affiliated with 114,000 Churches.

These figures were presented in last week's Baptist Record in an article by Robert S. Denny, the general secretary of the Baptist World Alliance. He was writing to call attention to Baptist World Alliance Day, which is Feb. 4.

Mr. Denny outlined the purposes of the alliance as being the same as the church — winning people to Christ, encouraging Bible study, and caring for

each other.

It is at this last point that the Baptist World Alliance can serve its purpose best. Baptists are to be found around the world, and they live in all sorts of circumstances.

A great many Baptists in this nation live in relative security. We live in freedom, and our standards of living are rather high compared with many areas of the world where other Baptists are living. Not all Baptists here enjoy these advantages; and those who don't, need to be remembered. The Baptist World Alliance, however,

serves very well indeed to keep us in mind of those Baptists who live in almost hopeless poverty as in some areas of Africa and in Bangladesh and India. It also keeps us in touch with those Baptists who must worship without enjoying the complete religious freedom that we have.

The Baptist World Alliance is somewhat like the Mississippi Baptist Convention and the Southern Baptist Convention except that it encompasses a world-wide group of believers. It has no authority over any other Baptist body, but it serves as an extension of

the local Baptist church as the church reaches out to fellow believers and the non-Christian around the world. The alliance, through its relief agency, knows of famines and disasters all over the world and helps us to provide the assistance that our brothers need at the time.

We get caught up in what we are doing on a state-wide basis and throughout the nation and the world as Southern Baptists. Let us not forget those other 16 million Baptists around the world, however, who need our love, our support, and our encouragement.

Guest Opinion . . .

Yes, What ARE Our Churches Coming To?

By Mrs. Joyce C. Rogers
Petal

I feel it is appropriate for a woman to reply to Rev. H. C. Talley's article on the place of women in the church which was in the January 4th issue of the Baptist Record. I appreciate the fact that our state Baptist paper provides an opportunity for freedom of expression.

I am grateful for the fact that the article caused me to research, pray and study more deeply concerning the subject. There are statements in the article with which I can agree but others with which I cannot agree! There are some statements which indicate that the brother might profit by some more studying, even as I did.

Not being able to read Greek, I consulted my husband and son (no pun intended) for help in understanding the meaning of passages in I Cor. 14, I Tim. 2 and 3, and Romans 16. Also I consulted a retired professor from one of our Baptist colleges and William Barclay's Commentaries entitled "The Letters to the Corinthians" and "The Letters to Timothy, Titus and Philemon." In addition, I used Smith's Bible Dictionary and Nave's Topical Bible.

Historical Context

Barclay's commentaries remind us that I Tim. 2:11-12 and I Cor. 14:34-35 are passages which cannot be read out of their historical context. (These passages say that women should remain silent in church.) They spring entirely from the situation in which they were written. A strict rabbi would never greet a woman on the street, not even his own wife or daughter or mother or sister. The place of Jewish women and Greek women was very low in that day. In fact, women, slaves and chil-

dren were classed together. The Temple of Aphrodite in Corinth had a thousand priestesses who were sacred prostitutes and who every evening plied their trade on the city streets. In contrast, the respectable Greek woman led a very confined life. She never at any time appeared on the street alone. Under these conditions, it would be assumed that a woman who spoke in public was a loose, immoral woman. Naturally Paul did not want the women in the early Christian church to be associated with the prostitutes of the Temple in Corinth.

I think we can safely assume that Jesus was a peaceable man and generally followed the customs and traditions of his time. Luke 2:52 records that "Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man." In John, chapter 2, we are told that Jesus attended a wedding in Cana of Galilee. However, it should be noted that Jesus did not follow the Jewish customs and traditions regarding women. He spoke to the woman at the well, much to her surprise! Other men would not have spoken to her in public, much less have carried on a conversation with her.

Neither did Jesus condone the public disgracing of the woman caught in adultery. He did not condone what she had done, but he did treat her with dignity and compassion. Jesus Himself ignored the customs of his day in regard to speaking to women. Thus, why

should we, 2,000 years later, think that the regulations regarding conduct of women set down by Paul to the early church apply to us today? Obviously, it is wrong to lift passages out of their context and try to make them apply where they do not!

Barclay's Commentary says "if we want Paul's real and permanent view on this matter, we get it in Gal. 3:28." "There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus."

Read Of Deborah

Before the brother condemns all women who proclaim God's Word as being disobedient to His Word and out of His will, perhaps he and others of this belief should read the story of Deborah in Judges, chapter 4. She was a prophetess and was leading Israel at that time. God spoke through her to his people. She, a woman, sent for a man, Barak, and told him what God said. Now this is not my story. This comes straight from God's Word.

In Acts 21:8-9 we are told of Phillip's four unmarried daughters who were prophetesses (preachers).

Romans 16:1 says "I commend unto you Phebe our sister, which is a servant of the church which is in Cenchrea." The Greek form for "servant" is the feminine form of the same word which is used in the masculine form in I Tim. 3:8 and usually translated "deacon." Actually, servant or leader

seems to be a better translation of the word in both cases. But if we choose to use the word "deacon" in I Tim. 3:8, then we must also say that Phebe was a "deaconsess."

In Romans 16, Paul is sending greetings to the church at Rome and is commending some of his personal friends and co-workers in the Lord. A significant number of women are mentioned: Phoebe (v. 1), Priscilla (v. 3), Mary (v. 6), Tryphena and Tryphosa and Persis (v. 12), Rufus' mother (v. 13) and Julia and Nereus' sister (v. 15).

Paul's references to Priscilla and Aquila are interesting. Her name is used first in Romans 16:3 and 2 Tim. 4:19. It seems to indicate that she was the stronger character of the two. Certainly one gets the impression that she was known for spiritual qualities foremost and secondarily for the fact that the church met in their home and that she was the wife of Aquila.

The husband-wife team in Kentucky remind me of Priscilla and Aquila. You see, the idea is not new at all! Missionaries have served on husband-wife teams down through the years. Also many women have faithfully proclaimed God's Word without husbands.

Praise the Lord for husband-wife teams in the Lord's work and also for men and women who serve alone! May the number increase!

Letters To The Editor

babe was fed many a spiritual meal by the preaching of these brave men.

Now I support my church faithfully and contribute to its financial welfare far and above what I give to "parachurch organizations." But I consider that little bit to be as well spent as any I ever gave through the Cooperative Program.

If these men can inspire Southern Baptists or anybody to give to their work, I say more spiritual power to them. When I read statistics that tell how little the average Southern Baptist gives to his church, when I read that baptisms among Southern Baptists have dropped three straight years, when I inspect county associational budgets that are a mockery to efficiency, yes, I am overjoyed to contribute to ministries that are uplifting, soul saving, and world wide in scope. Frankly, sir, these "operations" are doing what the Southern Baptist Convention is failing to do — GROW!

Let it never be said, however, that I would recommend someone stop giving to his local church. Any straight-thinking Baptist should understand that it is essential that the church remain No. 1 on his list of contributions. Thus the scriptures say.

But any enlightened Christian can see the great value of television evangelism in the world today. Thus it deserves "all the financial consideration that Baptists can find it in their hearts to put into it."

Randy Floyd
Grenada

Thank you, and I would not disagree except for your paragraph on Southern Baptists. — Editor

Role of Women

Editor:

I was very upset by the guest opinion of H. C. Talley that was published by the Baptist Record on Jan. 4, 1979. I feel that Mr. Talley has made a dangerously erroneous interpretation of Scripture that needs to be corrected.

Mr. Talley bases his entire case against the ordination of women on references to I Corinthians and I Timothy so a little background on these two books would be instructive. In Corinth one of the dominant aspects of pagan worship was worship of females. Women also served as temple prostitutes in Corinth. In order to eradicate the vestiges of paganism from Corinth, Paul advised women to maintain a low profile in the Corinthian church. A similar situation prevailed in the area that Timothy served when Paul wrote the first epistle to his son in Christ. However, in areas in which female worship and temple prostitution was not a problem, God used women such as Lydia to spread the good news of Jesus Christ.

Mr. Talley also refers to I Corinthians 14:37 which states, "If anybody thinks he is a prophet or a spiritual, let him acknowledge that what I am writing is the Lord's command" (NIV). The King James Version has rendered the indefinite Greek pronoun, *tis*, as "any man." This is incorrect. Anybody or anyone are the correct translations of this masculine or feminine pronoun. This example should serve as a warning to all of us to be sure what God's Word is saying and in what context it is saying it before we make untrue assumptions about the matter of the Bible.

Space does not permit me to pursue this vitally important discussion further in the pages of the Baptist Record, but I would encourage all those who are interested to obtain and read The Apostle Paul and Women in the Church by Don Williams and to pray for the guidance of God's Spirit as they seek to learn His will.

Jon Altman
Jackson

A Major Omission

Editor:

Due to space limitations, I'm sure it was difficult to write the complete story of our mission work at First Baptist Church, Columbus.

However, to overlook the \$30,000 foreign mission fund established in memory and honor of our young men who fought and died in World War II was a major omission.

This fund was and is a tribute to our pastor, the late Dr. J. D. Franks, who lost a son in the war. Dr. and Mrs. Franks helped establish the Baptist Seminary in Zurich, Switzerland. They taught there several years.

Also, to set the record straight, our beloved pastor Dr. S. R. Woodson served 25 years.

Thank you for your splendid paper. We're glad to have Dr. Joe McKeever write the Life and Work Sunday School lessons. They are splendid.

Isn't our Disaster Unit great! A First Baptist Member in Columbus (Name withheld by request)

The Baptist Record

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"No One Cares," Thai Woman Tells Doctor

By W. W. Walley, M.D.,
Waynesboro

Many exciting memories of my short tour of duty as a medical missionary to Thailand are etched permanently in my mind — not the least of which was the golden opportunity to work with all the mission people at Bangkok Baptist Hospital and especially Dr. Al and Olga Hood and their lovely family.

Opportunities to witness were on every hand, but it's very difficult to witness to Buddhists who don't even recognize God, and consequently have no understanding of Christ.

I have long had the feeling that the best way to witness in such cases, is to get the person to whom you are witnessing to asking questions, then you provide the answers. Such an opportunity presented itself when a young Thai woman, a minor wife of a family that practiced polygamy, was brought to

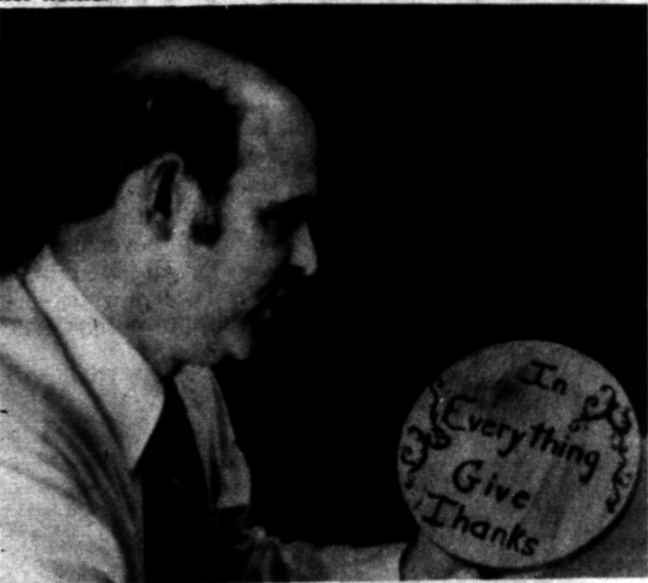
Mrs. L. Bracey Campbell Dies In New Orleans

Funeral services for Mrs. L. Bracey (Douthitt) Campbell, 86, of New Orleans were held January 27, at Baldwin Hinds Chapel Southwest in Jackson. Officiating were her pastor, Robert Richardson, and her former pastor, Joe Tuten. Mrs. Campbell's cousin, Andy Gallman, also assisted. Interment was in Clinton Cemetery.

The widow of L. Bracey Campbell, pastor and former professor at Mississippi College, Mrs. Campbell is survived by a son, L. Bracey Campbell, Jr. of Marion, Ala.; a daughter, Mrs. A. J. Toups, of New Orleans, La.; a sister; five grandchildren; and one great-grandchild. A son, L. Frank Campbell, former pastor of Westview Church in Jackson, preceded her in death.

The first child of Alice T. Massie and John Fairchild Gallman, Mrs. Campbell attended three Mississippi Baptist colleges: Blue Mountain, Clarke Memorial, and Mississippi College, graduating from the latter. She did graduate study at Boston University and the University of Denver.

Before retirement, Mrs. Campbell had been active in the Faculty Wives Club of Mississippi College, United Daughters of the Confederacy which she served as President, Daughters of the American Revolution, and various garden clubs. She also taught piano in her home.



The new building of Lake Washington First Church at Glen Allen will face the lake (below.)



the hospital after attempting suicide. When she was out of danger she was asked why she tried to kill herself. Her answer was, "No one cares." She was told we cared enough to work to save her life and then she asked, "Why?" This gave the opportunity to talk about God's love and our love for her, and to witness to her. She was overcome emotionally when it was explained to her that my service was given — even to paying my own expense. She cried openly, and this is something Thai people don't do, even at funerals.

I believe that by now, with guidance from our missionaries there, this woman has made a profession of faith. This alone would make my trip worthwhile.

I would like to encourage others to avail themselves of these opportunities, but I feel like I must warn you it's very contagious.

(NOTE: Walley went to Thailand in Oct., 1978, at his own expense, and gave his vacation time working with doctors in Bangkok Baptist Hospital.)



Simons Begin Teaching Ministry

Jerry and Carol Simon, formerly missionaries to Uganda and Taiwan, have begun a teaching ministry. They are available for revivals, camps, retreats, or seminars. They stress teachings on faith, praise, and worship. Presently, their home base is 344 Driftwood Circle, Slidell, La. 70458.

Simon has been pastor in Mississippi and Mrs. Simon is the former Carol Martin of Meridian.

Asuncion, Paraguay (RNS) — The government of Paraguayan President Gen. Alfredo Stroessner has decided to crack down on the country's 1,555 Jehovah's Witnesses. According to Manfred Ramirez Russo, director of cults, the government was banning the Witnesses (after 17 years) because of their "refusal to salute the national flag, to join in singing the national anthem, to participate in public parades in homage to public figures, and to serve in the military."

Thursday, February 1, 1979



SCRAPBOOK



Barbados

*This night, a restlessness moved me to the window
where a golden moon glow wrapped the world
in the night . . .
I thought of Adrian —
A child living on a coral rock in a faraway ocean.
I remember — and I'm glad.*

*A sweet memory invades my mind, once more;
It was done! (in His name), We sewed by the sea,
Yoke-fellows,
we were called Dorcas — we smiled
for we felt at one with the rhythm and
majesty of God's creation.
Thinking back — I'm so glad!*

*Then, why do I keep thinking of Adrian's eyes?
disciplined to polite greeting, but telling
much more.*

*The question was there — "You came because you love me —
but you must leave?"
Remembering that — I'm sad.*

*I've been prodigal — fulfilling my own dream
That segment of life put behind — 'tis done:
But You, dear constant Saviour, shared by the sea
And rested — only until there was a new need.
Ringing through the ages, Your Spirit still
speaks to hearts
Making them glad — so glad.*

*That was a beginning — West Indian eyes
speaking to me
drawing forth the listening woman —
You touched me, Lord. Never let me stop
Reaching out with a woman's special touch,
Bold
As you would have me be;
so that Adrian's eyes will see
YOU, in someone, someday —
and he'll be glad . . . and I'll remember.*

—Kathryn Moody

(NOTE: Adrian is a little Bajan boy who accompanied his sister to the sewing classes conducted by Mississippi's Operation Sewing Machine last summer. While the boy waited patiently on the veranda of the Baptist College administration building, Mrs. Kathryn Moody of Poplarville visited with him as she sewed. The day before the group departed Adrian came with his mother bringing Mrs. Moody a gift, a little plaque he had made. As they turned to go, he impulsively threw his arms around her in farewell.

Adrian is more than a memory to Mrs. Moody. She is particularly interested in scholarship funds being directed to Barbados Baptist College for the training of pastors in the Caribbean who may help children like Adrian know the Savior.)

Biloxi

*It was winter,
and I followed some birds south
to the water's edge,
where, with marvelous leverage,
a wind walloped the waves,
'til my boots crept ankle-deep
in ocean sand; and clouds hung steep,
free-moving, riding the tide.*

*Then blazed our perpetual southern
sun,
soothing the sea;
and in nature's maneuvers
I felt God's mighty plan,
and I knew his healing hand
would touch my loved one.*

— Violet Tackett

Glen Allen Pastor Gives Thanks — Even For His Blindness

By Anne McWilliams

"In everything give thanks." Those words from the Bible are on a plaque a church member made for Pastor Bob Smith at Glen Allen. But those are more than words on a wall to Smith. He gives thanks to God even for his blindness. "Because of the loss of my sight," he said, "I have learned the joy that comes from serving Him."

From October of 1977 to October of 1978, Smith's first year as pastor there, the Lake Washington First Church at Glen Allen had 63 additions, 34 for baptism. In comparison, there had been 16 baptisms the year before.

"The Lord has done so much for us here, so very much," the pastor said as he stepped with a sure tread around stacks of lumber, concrete blocks, bricks, and a pile of sand. Though he has only a small bit of peripheral vision, he knew the location of every obstacle.

A new \$320,000 church plant, sanctuary and education building, is going up. By March it should be ready, its white-columned entrance facing Lake Washington.

Since Lake Washington is only 20 minutes from Greenville, people who work in the city have been building homes around the lake. Too, fishing and hunting interests have made Glen Allen something of a resort area.

Those who attend church at Glen Allen, the pastor said, drive from as far north as Greenville, as far south as Fidler, and as far east as the other side of the Sunflower River. There are 275 resident members.

A Sunday School attendance that had dwindled, nearer to 36 than to the 136 enrolled, has picked up so much that the average is now 170. There were 228 on High Attendance Day. Five deacons have been ordained.

"God did it all," Bob Smith said. But this pastor deserves some credit for allowing himself to be used as God's instrument.

One of the deacons in the church, coincidentally, is the son of Dr. Cooper, the country physician who delivered Bob at Catchings in Sharkey County 42 years ago.

Shortly after Bob was converted and

baptized at the age of ten, his family moved to Lafayette, La. and then after a few years moved back to Mississippi. When he was 16 and still in high school at Rolling Fork he felt that God was calling him to preach, but he refused to surrender.

A football scholarship took him to Vanderbilt University in Nashville. By the end of the second week he hurt his shoulder and football was out of the picture, but he decided to stay on, for he liked the school. He was active in First Church, Nashville. Deep down he still knew God was calling, but he continued to say no. In 1958 he graduated with majors in economics and history, and went to work for Procter and Gamble.

The following year in August he married Betty Weller who had grown up in Chatham, across the lake from Glen Allen. Soon after their wedding in Lake Washington First Church they moved to Meridian.

As early as 1952 Bob had experienced night blindness. By 1960 this had grown much worse. When in 1967 he had five wrecks in one week he at last admitted what he had not been willing even to admit to himself — that he could no longer see well enough to drive.

Right away he said to himself, "I was probably right all along when I didn't choose religious work. I surely wouldn't be any good in it now."

He gave up his job, for it involved travelling, and moved with his family to Anguilla where he opened a grocery store.

Looking back, he says, "I see God's hand in all that was happening. We lost money every single day in that store. Yet the worry over finances was drawing me closer back to the Lord."

One day he found Betty crying. "I don't mind working," she said, "but we are getting deeper and deeper in debt." Feeling her anguish he went into the little bathroom in the store and fell on his knees and said, "Lord, I give up. I surrender my life totally to you. I feel like I'm just half a man, Lord, but what I am, whatever I can do, here I am, for your use."

After The Storm

*Last night, God more than 'washed the world
And flung it out to dry'
He cleared the dying branches
That once reached toward the sky.*

*I walk among the oak trees
Debris is everywhere
The live and green survived the winds
He does His work with care.*

*Betimes my soul fills to the brim,
With fragments of no worth; then
He who breaks the dying limb
And flings it down to earth*

*Must cleanse my life, if it would count
The Husbandman doth know
If we would dwell on heights we mount
The cross will have to go.*

*Dead aims, once good intentions—
That somehow turned out wrong.
Can't stand the storms of pruning—
God's soldiers must be strong.*

—Valerie Boyd Howell

What Is Before Me This Day?

By Sarah Peugh

When dawn begins to uncurtain the night, and birds start early to rehearse their orchestration of the day, I awaken refreshed to hear their prelude.

What is before me this day? — and a million other unanswered questions come into mind.

As I slip questions aside, I think of each member of my family. My heart pumps extra adrenalin as I trace a mental map of the place where each one is and then I say "God bless you and keep you today."

Friends and loved ones come into mind and I thank God with gratitude for their loving and caring, and our mutual sharing of the good and bad. Then I'm glad for each one.

I quietly reminisce on times that have come and gone and others I have known not so lucky: cancer and hearts that have taken their toll; accidents which claimed their part; prisons that cage the young and old; broken homes and broken hearts. Then I read "God loves us!"

What is before me this day? I do not know! Will life be comedy or tragedy, good or bad, laughter and merriment, or something sad? Whatever my fate may be, faith will sustain, for the producer of this day who unveiled the night and made the birds to sing and all good things, reminds me, "This is the day the Lord hath made, rejoice and be glad in it!"

New Inmate Bible Center Opens At Philippine Prison

MANILA, Philippines — More than 400 people attended inauguration services for a new Inmates Bible Center at New Bilibid Prison, Manila, Philippines. This is the first time prison officials have granted permission for such a building.

Need for the center developed when prisoners showed interest in Bible study classes being held at the prison. Roger Arienda, a former radio-television commentator jailed as a political activist shortly after martial law was declared in 1972, was instru-

mental in planning the building. He became a Christian while in prison and was the main organizer of the Bible study class. Arienda, who has led some 75 other prisoners to Christ, will be lay pastor of the center. He hopes to be a Baptist evangelist when he is released from prison.

The building plan was drawn by Jesus Larrabaster, a prisoner with training in civil engineering and also a new Christian. The prisoners built the center themselves.

From that day, things began to look brighter. When Malcolm Leach, then pastor at Anguilla, got laryngitis, the church asked Smith to fill in. (He had been ordained as a deacon and had done some occasional lay preaching.)

Then the church licensed him to preach. When Leach was called to another position Anguilla called Smith as interim pastor. Later they called him as pastor and ordained him. While he was there for six years the church built an educational building and added 85 to 100 members.

When in July, 1977, he preached a revival in Glen Allen, 16 people made professions of faith, most of them adults. A month later the Lake Washington Church called him as pastor.

A deepening of enthusiasm on the part of the Lake Washington First church members began with a WIN program in May, 1978, the pastor said. At the close of a week led by Luther Slay of Texas, 57 people went out witnessing on a one to one basis. As a result, on the next Sunday, Mother's Day, there were 20 decisions.

The following week a business meeting was called and the church voted to begin a new building — 99% voted for it, so the other 1% decided to make it unanimous.



Betty and Bob Smith

With the spurt of growth that had come to the church a building was really a must. The old building was an ancient one, very small, erected about 1924, and previously had been a union church used by several denominations.

This old building is to be torn down, as well as another old building across the street so that the embankment can be landscaped down to the lake.

How does Bob Smith drive? how does he study the Bible? or prepare his sermons?

"Everybody helps with the driving," he said — church members, his wife, friends who stop by. His two older children, Amanda, 16, and Bob Jr., 15, help drive, but Ted, 12, and Elizabeth, 7, not yet.

With an infectious warmth and friendliness he enters into the social life of the church and the town. When the deacons get together for supper at deer camp they take the preacher along to help with the cooking.

He studies by listening to tapes and by attending Bible and evangelism conferences. He particularly likes to listen to tapes of sermons by W. A. Criswell and Adrian Rogers, he said. Also he has the books of the Bible on tape.

Since college days when he worked at a summer youth camp in Delafield, Wisconsin, he has liked to speak — it was a talent that he developed — so it is not difficult for him to keep the outline of his sermon in mind. At each worship service he asks a deacon to read the Scripture. As he preaches he calls on different ones from the audience to read verses.

Underneath his air of happiness is a quiet assurance that he can trust God to take care of everything. "God did it all," he says. "He worked it all out. He set the time and the motivation. I feel that I wasted many years that I could have been working for Him."

"But in everything I give thanks — for what He has already done, and for what I know He will do tomorrow. Looking back is not enough. God does not stop blessing, at some high point in our lives. He keeps on blessing and guiding, day after day."

First, Fulton Doubles Lottie Moon Offering

In 1977, First Baptist Church, Fulton, set a goal of \$2,500 for the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for Foreign Missions. The offering fell short of the goal by about \$100.

But in 1978, instead of dropping back in the goal, members set a goal of \$3,000. The first Sunday of the mission emphasis, \$2,100 was given and on the first Sunday in January, the total exceeded \$4,000.

Now the offering income has gone over \$5,000, more than doubling the giving for the previous year.

This was done without an increase in church enrollment or budget, just by the entire church through an emphasis on missions led by the Woman's Missionary Union.

Vancleave Gives "The Most Ever"

First Church of Vancleave has gone over its goal for the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for Foreign Missions with \$2,165 given thus far. The goal was \$2,000.

This goal more than doubled the goal of the previous year. The Lottie Moon Offering this year is the largest ever in the history of the church.

Felix Greer is pastor and Stan Henson is minister of music and activities.



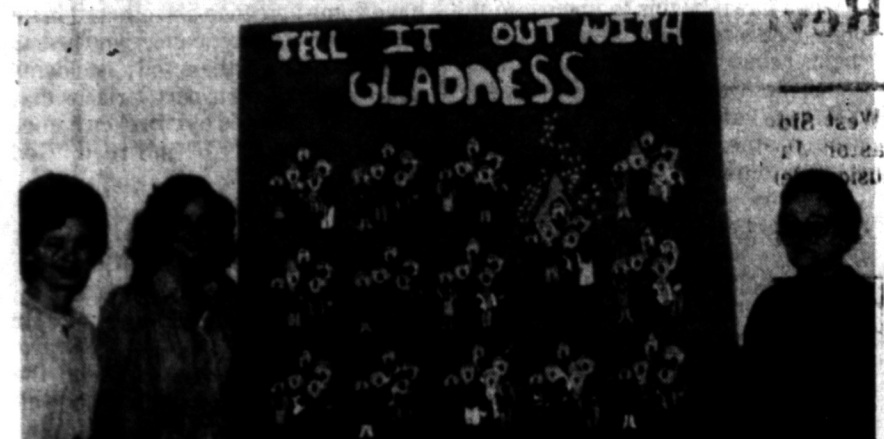
Clock Hands Go Haywire

Sadie Cooper, BYU president at Springfield Church, Morton, arranged the Lottie Moon Offering display for the church on the theme, "Tell It Out With Gladness." Clock hands were to indicate the church's goal of \$1200. When the offering reached \$2,539.93 Sadie could not decide where to set the hands! James E. Watts is pastor, and Mrs. James E. Watts is WMU director.

Mathiston Doubles Goal

The Lottie Moon Christmas Offering goal at First, Mathiston, was \$1200.00. The total giving was \$2842.03, a record for the church.

Higdon Herrington, pastor, says, "God has blessed and led in this giving. It is a real spiritual joy to see people express concern through giving."



CALVARY, WAYNESBORO's Lottie Moon goal was \$1,150; the offering was \$2,103. Rejoicing in this are Mrs. Willie Gail Trigg, W.M.U. director; Tommie Gay Cooper, designer of the progress sign; and Mrs. Roland Smith, president of Baptist Women. Alben Gaston is pastor.

Attendance Doubles At Calvary, Macon

R. S. McCrory, director of missions, Noxubee Association, reports that "Calvary Church, Macon, is beginning to feel the power and joy of the Bold Mission Thrust."

He adds, "Under leadership of the new pastor, Barry Massey, who came last October, the church is seeing the beginning of revival."

In the first three months of the new church year, this church has had more additions than in the past six years combined. During this time there has been 12 professions of faith and seven

additions by letter. Alton Ming has surrendered to preach the gospel. He is a student at Mississippi College, and an graduation plans to enter seminary.

Since October, Sunday School attendance has almost doubled the past year's average of 38. Church Training attendance has also doubled. Total gifts received have increased considerably.

"The Lord is truly blessing this small church in rural Noxubee County," McCrory states.

Just For The Record

The float of Trinity Church, Carthage, showing an open Bible with the words "His Name Shall Be . . . Prince Of Peace" and nativity scene won both the religious trophy and the best overall trophy awards in the Christmas parade held December 5 in Carthage. The float's preparation was a part of the continuing youth ministry program of Trinity Church. Dewayne Tanton is minister of music and youth. The pastor is Bobby Waggoner.

First Church, Bay St. Louis is broadcasting its services over WXGR (1190) at 11 a. m. Sunday morning.

First, Biloxi took 59 to North Carolina on a ski trip.

Washington Will Renovate Sanctuary

Washington Church, Washington, Miss., has voted to renovate the auditorium.

The renovation will include new cushioned pews, new pulpit furniture, carpeting of the auditorium, enlarging the choir loft and the front platform, installing new windows, enclosing the musical instruments, reworking the sound system, and redesigning the auditorium entrance and baptistry.

The \$25,000 project will also involve energy saving features such as storm windows and more attic insulation. New furniture will be placed in the choir loft, and the entrance foyer will be renovated.

The committee members for the renovation project are: Jimmy Runnels, chairman, Linda Garrett, Christine Smith, Eleanor Niven, and E. J. Forman.

Robert E. Jones, pastor, remarked that the project is expected to be completed in three months.

Sigrests Set Concert At Woodland Hills

Woodland Hills Church, Jackson on Feb. 4, at 7 p.m. will feature R. L. and Beth Sigrest in a sacred concert.

From their hometown of Yazoo City, the Sigrests travel throughout the United States presenting the Gospel through sacred music. They have sung in over 500 churches.

Their programs are designed for the entire family and include both contemporary and classical music, hymns, gospel songs and spirituals.

Woodland Hills Church is at 3327 Old Canton Road. James Scirratt is the pastor.

Donny Monk Plans Concert In Clinton

Donny Monk, a contemporary Christian concert artist and composer, will be presented in concert at Morrison Heights Church in Clinton on Sunday, Feb. 4 at 7 p.m.

Born in Louisiana, Monk received his music degree in voice from Louisiana State University. He also studied at Southwestern Seminary.

He has traveled extensively with the Continental Singers of Thousand Oaks, Calif. and with his own group "Donny Monk and Friends."

In the winter of 1973-74, he directed "New Hope" in a three and a half month tour of Holland and Switzerland. His concert tours have taken him into 50 states. Now, he is devoting his time to writing and giving solo concerts.

He has recorded two solo albums, "New Song in the Morning" on the Light label and "I'm Gonna Meet Jesus" on his own, Abbey label. Recently, he has written a musical on the joy of salvation called "Born Again, Rejoice!" on the Sonshine label, a division of the Lorenz Publishing Company.

Edinburgh (RNS) — Like England, which launched a National Initiative in Evangelism on Jan. 22, Scotland's major churches plan a similar Initiative stressing the same objectives. The Initiative is a long-term evangelistic project to spread the Christian message in this country. It has come from the Scottish Churches Council and has a four-fold list of objectives — to raise the level of Christian commitment in the Churches, to promote a growing Christian presence in the life of the nation, to equip Christians of all Churches for their witness to Christ, and to share in united Evangelistic witness.

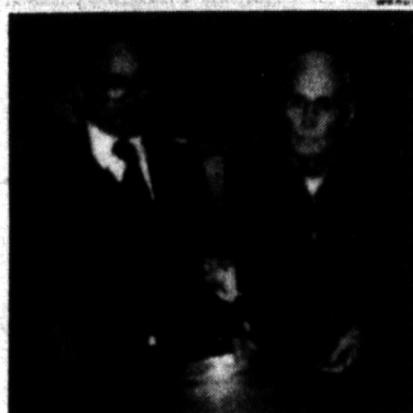
Lansing, Mich. (RNS) — Engaged couples would have to pay considerably more for marriage licenses under proposed legislation geared to provide marriage counseling if they should need it later.



HOLLYWOOD CHURCH, SLEDGE, held Harvest Day in December. A former pastor, Dennis Turner, now of First Church, Leachville, Ark., delivered the morning message. Old-fashioned day was observed, the church history was read, and lunch was served. A singing featured the "Chancers."

Of members on the church roll in 1932 four were present for Harvest Day. With the pastor, they were, top picture, left to right, Tom Bonds, pastor, Zack Jenkins, Mrs. Zack Jenkins, Mrs. J. T. Aldison, Sr. and Mrs. Zettie Sullivan. Two not present were Mrs. Johnny Faye Shields, Greenville, and Mrs. Eula McGregory, Oxford.

Bottom photo, in old-fashioned dress, are from left, Norris Faust, Jr., Tom Bonds, Zack Jenkins, and Brewer Hamilton.



A note burning ceremony was held at NEW PLEASANTDALE CHURCH Jan. 21. This note (for the fellowship hall and baptistry addition) was paid for four years in advance of due date. The two participating in this service were Pastor J. C. Herrington and Deacon Gene Massey.

Tukuyu, Tanzania — The Rungwe Baptist Association of Southern Tanzania marked 20 years of Baptist missionary ministry with special evangelistic meetings. During three weeks of revivals, 130 people made professions of faith in Christ and 21 rededicated their lives to him, according to Arville E. Senter, Southern Baptist missionary stationed in the association.

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Be silent and safe — silence never betrays you. — John Boyle O'Reilly

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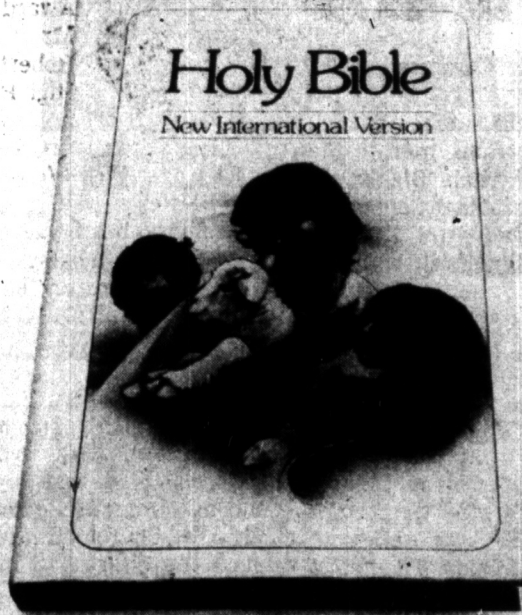
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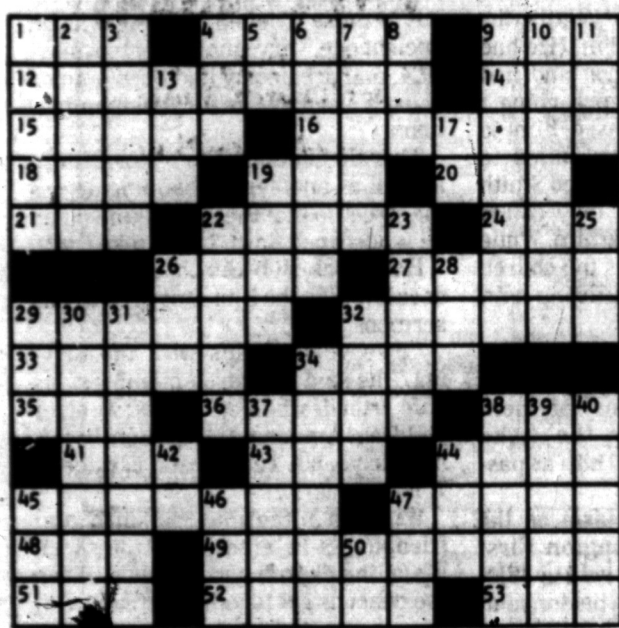
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52 Ruhr city
53 Time abbr.

DOWN

- 1 "every man — his own work" (Gal. 6)
- 2 Renew the lease
- 3 African noblemen
- 4 "to — them despitely" (Acts 14)
- 5 Letters
- 6 Places of preaching (Matt. 11:1)
- 7 "the four angels" (Rev. 9)
- 8 Wine: comb. form (Luke 6:18)
- 9 Judas Iscariot
- 10 See 26 across
- 11 — man out
- 12 Vine
- 13 Exclamation
- 14 Medicinal plant
- 15 "a scorpion" (Prov. 19)
- 16 "had gone six —" (2 Sam. 6)
- 17 Pounds: abbr.
- 18 Zoological suffix
- 19 Used to smite the rock (Num. 20:11)
- 20 Army man: abbr.
- 21 "and made an —" (Acts 12)
- 22 Woman (Rom. 9:18)
- 23 Sumerian drums
- 24 Armadas
- 25 Twines
- 26 Frame
- 27 Habits
- 28 Kind of wheat
- 29 Tellurium: symbol
- 30 Long meter
- 31 Double: abbr.
- 32 Direction: abbr.
- 33 Container
- 34 Pronoun

ACROSS

- 1 Earlier: prefix
- 4 David's was a counselor (1 Chron. 27:32)
- 9 A Thai people
- 12 "for the — of sins" (Rom. 3)
- 14 — horse (Zech. 1:8)
- 15 Tree (Rom. 11:17)
- 16 "— for the Lord" (Gen. 18)
- 18 Extremely
- 19 Three-toed sloths
- 20 Further
- 21 Suffix for baron or earl: pl.
- 22 Many do it (1 Cor. 11:30)
- 24 Temperature: abbr.
- 26 Not a prophet (Amos 7:14)
- 27 "made — today" (1 Sam. 27)
- 29 Sally
- 30 Source of mighty oaks
- 31 "full of — fishes" (John 21)
- 34 "forsook him, and —" (Mark 14)
- 35 Pull strap
- 36 Miss Fitzgerald and namesakes
- 38 Metric units of length: abbr.
- 41 Oriental holiday
- 42 Of Roman bronze
- 43 Hole, of a kind
- 44 "and have — to answer" (Acts 25)
- 47 Core group
- 48 Indian's shoe: by shortening
- 49 Captain (Num. 2:5)
- 51 Doxyrhythmic acid: abbr.

CRYPTOVERSE

F P U T K P G X P J G Z X L U U X Q
I G L C W R G P W W T Z C W

Today's Cryptoverse clue: T equals I

(Answers on Page 7)

James E. (Jimmy) Ross was ordained to the gospel ministry Sunday, Jan. 7, at Pelahatchie Church, Carl Nelson, pastor. He is now assistant pastor of Mt. Carmel Church near Cleveland, Tenn. J. C. Renfro, director of missions, Rankin County Association, preached the ordination sermon. *By*

Alton Ming, a senior at Mississippi College and member of Calvary, Macon, has answered the call of the Lord to preach. He preached his first sermon Sunday evening, Jan. 14, at Calvary.



Immanuel Church, Natchez, on Jan. 14 licensed three young men to the gospel ministry: Dennis Blackwell, Michael Carraway, and Scott Thomas. Blackwell is entering seminary. He is married to the former Linda Newsom and they have two children, Toni and Keri. Carraway has enrolled at Co-Lin Junior College. He and his wife, the former Linda Shell, have two children, Michael, Jr. and Melinda. Thomas, a senior at South Natchez High School, plans to go to Mississippi College. He is the son of Billy Thomas, pastor of Immanuel Church, and Mrs. Thomas.

Mississippi Women's Christian Temperance Union is sponsoring an essay contest and a poster contest. Deadlines for both are March 15, 1979.

The topic for the essay contest is "Marijuana, Its Use and Effects." Grades 10, 11, and 12, in public and private schools, may enter.

Two copies of the essay should be submitted. On a separate page give the student's name, address, age, grade, school, and name of teacher.

The material should be typed: double-spaced, on white paper, one side only, with one-inch margins. List reference materials as bibliography. Mark all direct quotations. These should not make up more than 20% of the essay.

First prize for essays and posters will be \$25; second prize \$15, and third prize \$10. The three honorable men

Bob Wiggins, native of Indianola, evangelist who is a specialist in the area of church renewal, led in a six-day revival recently at Bynum Church, Bynum, Ala. **L. W. Ridenhour**, chairman of the group of deacons that led in the revival planning, states, "We witnessed changes sweep over our people as we were brought face to face with Christians' responsibility toward one another. We felt a renewal of the joy of our salvation and saw man-made barriers that had limited our love and concern for one another dissolve. . . ." **Bob Wiggins Evangelistic Association** has headquarters in Perry, Fla. (Box 762, phone 904/584-2676.)

Gloria Thurman, missionary on furlough from Bangladesh, was special guest speaker at the January WMU meeting at Wanilla Church.

David A. Shirley of Tupelo has been chosen by the faculty of Southeastern Seminary, Wake Forest, N. C., to receive the Middel Award in Systematic Theology. The Award, endowed by Mr. and Mrs. Robert A. Culler of High Point, N. C., is presented annually at the school's spring convocation to a second year student who has achieved excellence in systematic theology. Shirley was given the award on the basis of his paper, "Faith, Revelation and the Silence of God."

Pineview Church, Hattiesburg on Jan. 21 ordained **James M. Harrison**, **Huey P. Lott**, **J. Q. Ryals**, **Kenneth Ryals**, **App Slade** and **Guy L. Slade** as deacons. **James McLemore**, pastor of 38th Ave. Church, Hattiesburg, delivered the charge to the deacons. **James Beck**, pastor of Calvary Church, Hattiesburg, delivered the charge to the church. **Doug Benedict** is the interim pastor.

[illegible]

Alvis Cooper, pastor, reports that First Church, Potts Camp, has, in the spirit of Bold Mission Thrust, set some bold goals for 1979, and beyond. These include the support of one part-time missionary, the support of one summer missionary student from Blue Mountain College, and the support of a scholarship fund and Blue Mountain College.

Other goals the church has listed are: "win and witness for Christ to the lost; set worthy goals for Annie Armstrong, Lottie Moon, and state missions offerings; pray that God will call our own people into His service; encourage every church member to be a tither and giver; help support one full-time missionary by 1985; help double Cooperative Program giving in the Southern Baptist Convention by 1982 by increasing the percentage of giving when budget allows; pray without ceasing."

NEW ORLEANS — More than 500 students are expected to participate in a discussion of "Christ in My World" during the Student Missions Conference that will be held Feb. 16-18 at the New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary campus.

The students will be representing many colleges and universities for the annual affair, while this year will feature several guest speakers, including Dr. Joe McKeever, pastor of the First Baptist Church, Columbus, Miss., and Louis Myers, Mississippian, former missionary to Vietnam.

The weekend conference is designed to introduce students to mission service possibilities at home and abroad.

Additional details concerning the conference can be obtained by writing to Harold Bryson at the Seminary, 3939 Gentilly Boulevard, New Orleans, La., 70126. Cost for the three-day affair is \$10. Bryson is conference chairman.

Lucust Street Church, McComb, adopted a written tribute to Charles and Willie Daniels, on the Daniels' golden wedding anniversary, Dec. 31, 1978. Charles Daniels, a retired pastor, died a week before the anniversary, on Dec. 25.

Daniels was born Sept. 18, 1906 and his wife, Willie (Bill) Granberry, was born March 27, 1908. Both attended McComb High School.

The tribute stated, in part:

"On Feb. 1, 1928, while standing in front of the drug store on Main Street, Daniels saw his dream girl pass by. He turned to a friend nearby and said 'That's the girl that I am going to marry.' On their second date he proposed marriage to Miss Willie Granberry, to which she said no. But on April Fool's Day, 1928, Willie agreed to marry Charles. They were married December 31, 1928 in the parsonage of Central Baptist Church by Harry Carter, the pastor.

While attending a revival during his freshman year at Mississippi College Charles heard God calling. He gave up his ambition of becoming a postal inspector and surrendered to the gospel ministry. He shared with Willie his call to preach and offered release from their engagement. Willie told him that since she was a young girl she had felt God calling her to become a pastor's wife. They prayed and surrendered to go where God wanted them to go.

"Charles was licensed and ordained to the gospel ministry by Central Baptist Church.

"After marriage, the Daniels, with their life savings of \$12.00, made their first home in New Orleans where he became a student of the Bible Baptist Institute, now New Orleans Seminary.

"While in seminary Daniels preached on the streets and mission points. He was called to pastor Willow Street Mission sponsored by Calvary Church of New Orleans.

"After seminary, from 1933 to 1936, Daniels first pastorates were in Louisiana. Then his pastorates were from 1936 to 1943 were: Calvary, Arm, Oak Dale, and New Hope at Silver Creek; Immanuel at Hattiesburg, and Scooba, at DeKalb.

"While at DeKalb Daniels felt God calling him to go into the service as a chaplain.

"Daniels was near explosions in service which left him with severe headaches which rarely left him except while he was preaching.

"Scooba Church called them back to their church as their pastor in 1946. While there he taught Old Testament and New Testament at East Mississippi Jr. College without pay.

"He attended Mississippi College for a term at a time through the years until he finished.

"In 1948 he became pastor of Mars Hill (Amite) and while there he pastored New Zion. Both churches built new buildings during his pastorate.

"December 1952 he became pastor of New Salem, Caledonia. From December 1952 to March 1968 he pastored Yellow Leaf Church at Oxford. While there he taught Negro ministers for two years at a seminary center.

"In 1968 Daniels had to retire due to a massive heart attack. The following year they moved to McComb. Mrs. Daniels worked as a nurse at Southwest General Hospital until 1976.

"After retirement Daniels was able to hold only a few worship services and one ordination service at Yellow Leaf for his "son Timothy" in the ministry, Bobby Jackson.

"A number of young men surrendered to preach the gospel through the influence of Bro. and Mrs. Daniels.

"Daniels last words to us were, 'If I had my life to live over, I would pray more.'

"Mrs. Daniels words to us are, 'Overlook any fault and encourage the discouragements.' "

The Daniels had a son, John Owens, and five grandchildren.

Thomas Wicker is the pastor at Lucust Street Church.

ASHEBORO, N. C. (BP) — Executive Committee members of the North Carolina Baptist General Board voted to complete a lengthy form from the Equal Opportunity Office on employment practices, but under "protest."

General Secretary Cecil A. Ray asked the committee to authorize business manager Richard Smith to fill out the form but to note the protest as an infringement on the First Amendment.

The action also called for concern to be expressed to the state's Congressional delegation in Washington, including Senators Robert Morgan and

Three conferences will follow a meal served by the host church. Pastors and deacons may choose one.

The conferences will be: "When You Don't Agree With Your Pastor," led by George Lee, director of missions, Lawrence Association; "Is Too Much Expected of Me?" led by Jimmy

West Side, Macon: March 12-17; Pastor James Odom, preaching; music under direction of Diane Ricks.

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Deacon Dies At Greenfield

When Max Phillips, deacon at Greenfield Church, Greenville, died recently the deacons adopted a resolution in tribute to him:

"Max Phillips served Greenfield Church in practically every possible position of leadership for many years, and in every instance proved a capable, dedicated servant of his Lord."

"The body of Christ at Greenfield loved the fellowship of Max Phillips, and respected and appreciated his wise counsel in many areas of our church."

"We, the deacon council of Greenfield, acting in behalf of our entire deacon body, express our deepest Christian sympathy to his widow, Mrs. Lil Phillips."

Perry Poss is chairman of deacons.

Devotional

The One Who Wins Souls

By David Grant, Pastor, Broadmoor, Jackson
Proverbs 11:30

Who is a wise person? The dictionary defines the word "wise" as "discerning and judging soundly concerning what is true or false, proper or improper; discreet; — opposed to foolish . . . Dictated or guided by wisdom; judicious . . . informed."

The book of Proverbs makes the statement that "he who is wise wins souls."

Based on the definition of the word "wise" and the statement about a wise man, it behooves each of us to answer the question, Am I wise? Or even more so, Am I winning souls? The purpose of this devotion is to present the use of wisdom in winning souls. There are several factors involved.

I. The first factor is the implication of it.

Souls are lost. Perhaps the best illustration of this is the parable of the prodigal son. Souls that are lost are separated from God and condemned to damnation. But souls can be saved. This is implied in our text and is presented in the Bible as the reason for our Lord's coming to earth. Our Lord uses human instruments in saving the lost. The person who is used in this way is declared wise.

II. The second factor is the work of it.

Satan is at his strongest in presenting opposition to soul-winning. This is his greatest threat. Paul says in Ephesians 6:12 that we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against rulers and powers, etc. Procrastination is a constant enemy to this work. We can always find other things to do. We also must contend with spiritual blindness and insensibility. The elements of the work are intelligence, faith, hope, activity, excitement, and exhortation.

III. The third factor is the aim or purpose of soul winning.

The immediate aim is the salvation of the soul. The negative force of this salvation is that there is an arresting of a stream of evil influence and the turning of a human spirit from the course which leads downward to eternal punishment. The positive force is that there is the origination of a holy and helpful influence which gives joy of the purest kind. It leads to the upward way and eternal life. The ultimate aim of soul winning is that it glorify God.

IV. The fourth factor is that it takes activity to win souls.

There are some general concepts such as bringing them to hear the Word of God, writing letters, and living the life before them. There are some specifics such as praying, scripture usage, and actually speaking to the lost.

CONCLUSION: We simply cannot give too much to this task. We must put our whole strength to it and trust God for victory.

Texas And Tennessee Schools Provide The Most Journeymen

RICHMOND—Schools in Texas and Tennessee lead the list of colleges supplying missionary journeymen since the Foreign Mission Board began the program in 1965.

Baylor University in Waco, Texas, with 47 journeymen, ranks first among Baptist schools and Texas Tech University in Lubbock, with 17 journeymen, is first among non-Baptist schools. Mississippi College has sent out 22 journeymen in the 13-year period.

Tennessee schools rank second on both lists. Carson-Newman College in Jefferson City with 33 journeymen is second among Baptist schools. East Tennessee State University in Johnson City and University of Tennessee, Knoxville, with 15 each, are tied for second among non-Baptist schools.

The journeyman program is a two-year program designed for college graduates age 26 and under who don't feel called to career service overseas, but would like a world view before beginning careers in the United States.

During the last 13 years, 993 journeymen have gone out from 271 schools as diverse as Longwood College in Farmville, Va., and Colorado School of Mines in Golden.

Other Baptist schools who have sent 10 or more journeymen are Samford University, Birmingham, Ala., with 27; Oklahoma Baptist University, Shawnee, 23; Mississippi College, Clinton, 22; Southwest Baptist College, Bolivar, Mo., 18; Ouachita Baptist University, Arkadelphia, Ark., 17.

Also Hardin-Simmons University, Abilene, Texas, 13; Mars Hill (N.C.) College, 13; Georgetown (Ky.) Col-

lege, 12; Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem, N. C., 12; Wayland Baptist College, Plainview, Texas, 12; California Baptist College, Riverside, 11; and Howard Payne University, Brownwood, Texas, 10.

Other non-Baptist colleges on the list are West Texas State University, Canyon, 12; University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, 12; Western Kentucky University, Bowling Green, 11; Texas Woman's University, Denton, 11; North Texas State University, Denton, 11; University of Missouri, Columbia, 10; and Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, 10.

Annuity Board Invites Callers To Use New Toll Free Numbers

DALLAS, Texas — An expansion of the Southern Baptist Annuity Board's Wide Area Telecommunication Sys-

tem (WATS) gives participants in the agency's retirement and insurance programs three numbers to dial for answers to questions.

Replacing the Annuity Board's two old numbers, two new toll free national numbers and one for Texas residents were installed in January, said Darold H. Morgan, Board president.

New national numbers are 1-800-527-9010 and 1-800-527-9003. Texans may now dial 1-800-442-7053.

Since 1975, the Annuity Board has operated two WATS numbers — one for Texans and another for those living elsewhere in the U.S.

In 1978, the Annuity Board received almost 34,000 incoming WATS calls — an average of some 2,833 a month.

To help callers use Annuity Board WATS, Dr. Morgan offered these tips:

1. Check time zones before calling

and be persistent. Operators take calls 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (CST) Monday through Friday.

2. Avoid peak calling times in mid-morning and mid-afternoon.

3. Have questions, sequence account numbers and all information in hand before dialing.

4. Remember calls are not transferable, so a long distance call may be needed to reach a particular person.

Montgomery (Lincoln) Pastor Retires, Is Honored At Party

Fred L. Bolian, Jr. retired from the active pastorate at the end of 1978, due to ill health, and preached his last sermon as pastor of Montgomery Church, Lincoln County, Dec. 31.

Montgomery Church is the place where he was licensed, ordained, preached his first sermon, and was interim pastor for three months in 1950.

On the night of Dec. 17 the church honored Bolian and his wife with a

supper and presented to them an engraved silver tray and a check.

Bolian was born in Wesson and graduated from Co-Lin Junior College, Mississippi College, and New Orleans Seminary. He was in the Air Force three years, two overseas, and taught school in Clarke County. For 26 years he has been pastor in Louisiana and Mississippi.

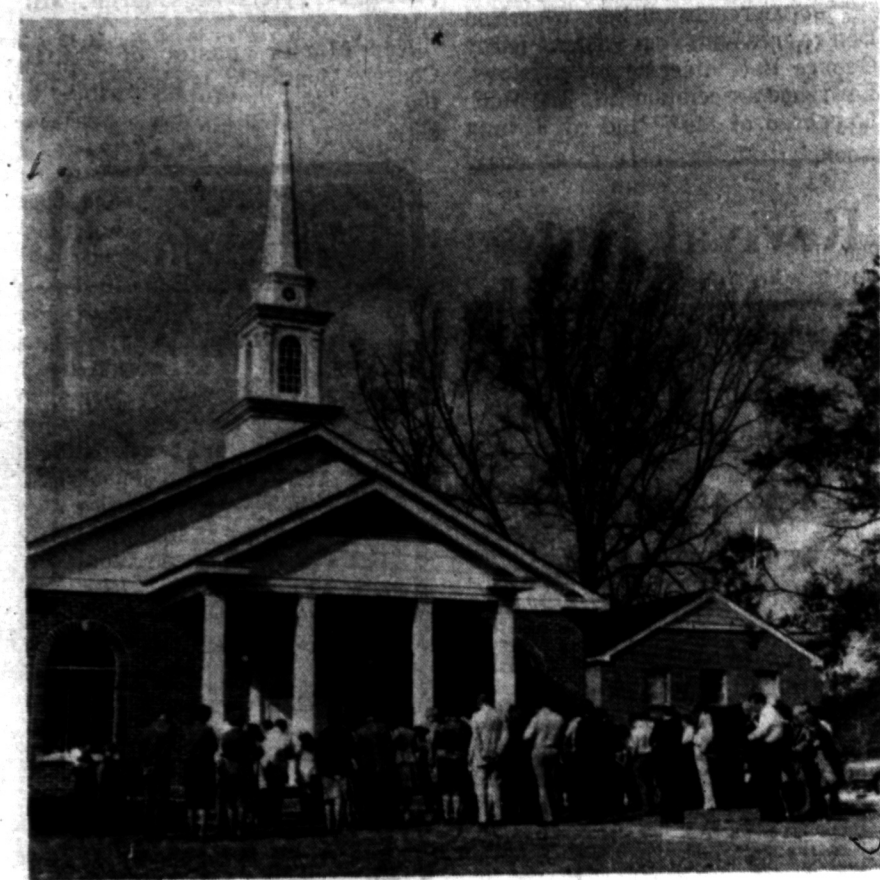
Besides Montgomery, he was pastor of Damascus, Hazlehurst, in Mississippi. In Louisiana he was pastor of churches at Mt. Hermon, Hammond, Albany, Pine Grove, and Holden.

While in Louisiana he was a state Executive Board member for five years and was on the state BSU, Baptist Message, and Budget committees. He has served as associational, moderator, and president of the pastors' conference.



Fred and Stacy Bolian received a silver tray and a check as gifts from Montgomery Church, Lincoln County. He retired Dec. 31.

Mrs. Bolian is the former Stacy Walker of DeSoto, Miss. They have two daughters, Mrs. Stanley Canoy of Hattiesburg and Mrs. Gerald Griffith of Hammond, La., and two grandchildren. The Bolians plan to live in Summit.



A Steeple For Marion

First Church, Marion, in November, 1978, for the first time obtained a steeple. Although the church was built in 1951, many felt the building was not complete without a steeple. After a new educational wing had been added and a new pastor's home built this dream finally came true. E. C. Wells is pastor.

The gem cannot be polished without friction, nor man perfected without trials. — Chinese Proverb.

Life and Work Lesson

What Kind Of Faith Justifies Sinners?

By Joe N. McKeever, First, Columbus
Romans 4

You may be interested in a conversation a Baptist pastor had recently with a member of a religious cult.

She belongs to a religion that has many so-called apostles, believes doctrines not taught in the Bible, and yet calls itself Christian.

Her question was "Can't God continue to give mankind new revelations? Why must He be limited to what He has already done and said?"

The pastor responded, "He certainly can. However, there's one thing we know about how He works — and that is consistently."

"It's like a seed. Everything about the tree is present in the seed, although in microscopic form. Everything about an adult's body is contained in the genes of the unborn baby, although they are not developed."

"Nothing that Christ said contradicts anything in the Old Testament. The new does not violate or disagree with the old. It was all there in embryonic form, all along."

"The trouble with your religion," he concluded, "is that it violates and contradicts a great deal that God has already revealed to man in His Word."

The new is present in the old. And they agree. Here's an example of the pastor's point. When Paul stated that the just shall live by faith (Romans 1:17), he gave us the principle which Abraham's life demonstrates.

Not by works (4:13-15)
How strangely God teaches. To show our need of repentance. He illustrates with Nicodemus, a very righteous man (John 3). If he needs to repent we all do.

In demonstrating that we are not saved by works. He illustrates with Abraham, considered by the Jews the most righteous of all Old Testament men. If he was not saved by good deeds, neither can we be.

Abraham was a man of faith. Think of him leaving family behind, following a God whom he scarcely knew into a land he'd never seen — and finding a famine when he got there! Imagine God bringing a son from a couple whose ages averaged 95! And doing so 25 years after He first made the promise.

While Abraham certainly was a man of good works, those works resulted from his faith. That inner commitment to Jehovah-Jireh, the Lord who sees to

it, let him to remain faithful when Lot joined the Sodomites, to give tithes to Melchizedek out of his gratitude for a victory, to resist gifts from the pagan kings, to offer Isaac to God when put to the test.

Abraham demonstrates the new birth — his son Isaac was life brought forth from death. He demonstrates the cross — the sacrifice of God's offering in the place of Isaac on Mount Moriah; and the resurrection — by Isaac's return with him from Moriah. Little wonder we call him Father of all who have faith.

Not by circumcision (4:9-12)

God declares Abraham's righteousness in Genesis 15, but does not prescribe circumcision until two chapters later.

So, Paul points out, that pretty well does away with the argument that circumcision makes one acceptable to God.

In our day, some equate circumcision with baptism. Some of my Presbyterian friends presented me with a denominational booklet which takes this approach. Its aim seems obvious — to justify infant baptism.

But Paul's strong, simple logic here destroys that doctrine. Abraham was declared just a long time before receiving circumcision. In the New Testament, no one was baptized until giving evidence of his faith and commitment to the Lord.

Not by Law (4:13-15)

Paul announces that where there is no law, there can be no violation of it. But conversely, where the law is present, people break it. So, he says, it brings about wrath.

But never salvation. It can prepare one for salvation by revealing sin and presenting God's perfect standard, which should lead to repentance and faith. But God saves through faith, never the law.

All of Faith (4:16-25)

There are two reasons why God justifies people only by faith — not by works, circumcision or the law.

One, that salvation may be of grace. Grace means God giving us what we do not deserve. (Mercy then is God not giving us what we do deserve.)

God wants the credit. Our need is so overwhelming, the debt so staggering, our sin-load so devastating, we cannot begin to handle it. We need a Saviour.

We have the only Savior in Christ. Through His sacrifice-death on Calvary, our sins are atoned and we have access to all God has for us.

Perhaps the finest Old Testament picture of God's grace you'll ever find is the one in II Samuel 9. David shows the kindness (grace, mercy) of God to a descendant of Jonathan. It's an allegory of what God does for us. (But you'll have to dig it out for yourself!)

The second reason that God saves us only by faith is in order to give an op-

portunity to all. Think of that for a moment . . .

. . . if salvation were only by good deeds, a quadriplegic would be out of luck. Or a paralyzed person. Or some retarded people. But it's of faith, and all can believe!

. . . if salvation were by circumcision, then only men and boys could be saved. And we'd have a world of circumcised heathen — with the only change a physical one. But faith is the one requirement, and all can believe.



By Larry Kennedy, First, Laurel
John 17:21; I Peter 3:16

During the period of history commonly called the Middle Ages, the ascetic way of life became a standard for many. Those who withdrew into harsh isolation to pray and meditate felt they were obeying Christ's command to be separate from the world. At the age of 20 Saint Benedict left his lucrative environment and decided to live in isolation in a cave near Rome. He believed that to be a genuine disciple of Christ it was necessary to withdraw from the world.

Down through the ages committed Christians have struggled with the tension between being a follower of Christ and a participant in the everyday affairs of this world. How should we live as Christians in today's world?

I. Sanctify in the Truth

In today's world a Christian disciple needs to be sanctified in the truth. As Jesus prayed for his disciples, he asked the Father to "Sanctify them in the truth . . ." (John 17:17). Jesus knew that his disciples must go out into the world of men. As he sent them into the world, he prayed that they would be sanctified (pure, dedicated, holy). The spoken revelations that the disciples had received from Christ was the "truth." It was this "truth" that could purify their hearts and mold them into holy men of God.

II. Sensitive to the Needs of Others

In today's world a Christian disciple needs to be sensitive to the needs of others. Peter said, ". . . let all be harmonious, sympathetic, brotherly, kindhearted, and humble in spirit" (I Pet. 3:8). The word "sympathetic" means to view life from the other person's perspective. A wise person once said, "Don't judge a man until you have stood in his shoes."

The apostle asked the believers not to "return evil for evil" (I Pet. 3:19). So many times we are like the two brothers who were fighting in the bedroom. The mother walked in and said, "Stop that fighting this minute. I am ashamed of both of you. Don't you realize that Jesus might come back tonight?" The boys were silent for a few moments. Finally the younger one looked up and said, "I will stop fighting for now. But if Jesus does not come back tonight, I am going to sock him in the nose the first thing in the morning."

III. Speech That is Pure

In today's world a Christian disciple is to be pure in his speech. Peter said that the believer should ". . . refrain his tongue from evil and his lips from speaking guile" (I Pet. 3:10). Loose tongues have probably destroyed more lives than all the weapons of warfare. A woman and her neighbor were having a spicy conversation about a

person in the community. The woman's son interrupted the conversation and asked, "Mother, are you gossiping?" The Mother replied, "Son, I am not a gossip; I am a news analyst." How do you justify your gossip?

A rabbi, a Catholic priest, and a Baptist minister met once a week for prayer and fellowship. At one of the meetings the rabbi felt compelled to confess a secret sin. At first the priest and the Baptist minister were horrified at what they had heard. However, the priest decided that he needed to be just as honest as the rabbi. He stood and confessed numerous sins that he had committed. When the priest had finished, the Baptist minister stood and said, "Normally, I would never confess my secret sins. But after hearing you, I have to confess that I am an incurable gossip. And to be perfectly honest, I can't wait to get out of here so I can tell everything I heard."

IV. Speak for Christ

In today's world a Christian disciple is to speak for Christ. Peter said, ". . . always being ready to make a defense to everyone who asks you to give an account for the hope that is in you . . ." (I Pet. 3:15). The expression "to make a defense" (King James Version says, "give an answer") is a legal expression describing a lawyer who was able to clear his client of all charges. This verse reminds us that our witnessing is

Tuition Tax Story Ranks First In Top 10

SILVER SPRINGS, Md. (RNS) — The defeat in Congress of a plan to provide tuition tax credits at the federal level for parents of children in non-public schools has been named the top church-state story of 1978.

It ranked at the head of the "lopten" list compiled by the staffs of Americans United for Separation of Church and State and Church and State Magazine.

Tuition tax credit bills found Roman Catholics and most Protestants on opposite sides. While the most publicized measure in the area, the Packwood-Moynihan Bill, was not adopted, both proponents and opponents anticipated that the issue would arise again in the new Congress in 1979.

V. Sincere Life

In today's world, a Christian disciple is to lead a sincere life. Peter said, "And keep a good conscience so that . . . those who revile your good behavior in Christ may be put to shame" (I Peter 3:16). There will always be those folks who will want to destroy the Christian faith. These people will look for sins in the life of a believer. Peter challenges us to live worthy lives in the face of the coming attacks. The pure life will do much to spread the gospel and to defeat those who seek to destroy the gospel.

How should we live as Christians in this world? Retreat into caves! In his later years Saint Benedict had a change of thought about the ascetic life. In response to an extremist who had chained himself in a cave, Benedict wrote: "The true servant of God is chained not to rocks by iron, but to righteousness by Christ." God's man is to live in the market place as a Christ-like person.

Uniform Lesson

Disciples In The World

serious business. In presenting Christ and defending our faith, the Christian is to be as prepared as a skilled lawyer would be in preparation for a court trial. However, the Christian disciple is to defend the faith in a spirit of "gentleness and reverence" (I Pet. 3:15). A pugnacious attitude will only turn people off. Authority mixed with love will gain a great following.

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